FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 SEPTEMBER 1984

Jordan

Renewed Egyptian Relations — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat explained in comments broadcast by Amman radio that the restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt is an "advanced political decision" which "entrenches Arab solidarity" and attempts to end the "state of paralysis" prevailing over the "Arab march." Concerning the possibility of negative reactions to the decision, he stated that Jordan will let the "Arab peoples' unanimity decide them." Meanwhile, in a statement carried by MENA, the Egyptian Presidency affirmed that Egypt "welcomes" the decision as an "important step toward strengthening Arab solidarity." Furthermore, Egypt hopes "everyone" will avoid "maneuvering and outbidding" in this regard. Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed in a statement to the agency that the decision is a "positive" one that embodies the "reality of the fraternal ties" between the two peoples, and this "joint effort" will play a role in achieving peace in the Middle East. Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stated during a news conference reported by MENA that the decision is an "extremely positive step" in the Arab interest. He also pointed out that there is no connection between Arab reconciliation and bilateral relations with Israel. As for Israel, senior political sources in Jerusalem cited by the Tel Aviv paper *HA'ARETZ* expressed "satisfaction" over the decision, which attests to the weakening of the PLO.

However, the PLO representative in Cairo welcomed the Jordanian decision as a "step in the right direction" that will have a "positive impact" on the Arab future and the Arab cause, MENA reported. A Fatah official in Cairo added that the decision is a "positive step" which should be followed by "other steps." On the other hand, a PLO Executive Committee spokesman in Damascus viewed the decision as a "blatant violation" of Arab summit resolutions and as an "exceptionally dangerous move," Damascus radio noted. He urged "all popular and official Arab forces" to "thwart" the move, which cannot possibly help achieve a just solution to the Palestine question. In a statement issued in Damascus and cited by SANA, the Palestinian Democratic Alliance declared that the move requires "immediate action" to restore the PLO's unity, and stressed the need for "confronting" the step and taking the "necessary measures to deter" Jordan.

Along these lines, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned the Moroccan and Syrian leaders concerning the Jordanian decision, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio disclosed. He maintained that measures for "material and moral punishment" against Jordan must be taken. In a statement carried by JANA, the Libyan Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison called for the application against Jordan of the same resolutions applied against Egypt. Regarding such calls, the Algerian Foreign Ministry suggested the convening of an "Arab consultation" to discuss the issue, Algiers radio reported citing a Foreign Ministry statement.

'Arafat Visit — King Husayn and Prime Minister 'Ubaydat received a PLO delegation led by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Amman radio reported. The talks dealt with the latest developments in the Arab region and with developing coordination between Jordan and the PLO on a number of Palestinian issues, the radio added citing a palace source.

Murphy Visit — Husayn and 'Ubaydat received U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, Amman radio reported. The talks focused on the current problems in the Middle East, especially the Lebanese problem, the radio added.

Lebanon

Security — A car-bomb explosion in the Al-Dawrah area of East Beirut caused "casualties," KUNA reported. The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio claimed that the explosion was the result of a technical error by Phalangist sappers, who were planting explosives in the car for detonation in the western part of the city. Meanwhile, intermittent clashes continued between the Army and opposition forces in the 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb area, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In the north, Tripoli was calm following the successful implementation of the security plan, Beirut radio noted.

Conclave Sessions — The Cabinet has decided to establish an emergency committee for the south comprising representatives of the Phalangists, the Liberal Party, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Amal Movement, Beirut radio disclosed in a report on the Cabinet conclaves in Bikfayya. The ministers also agreed to increase the size of the new Chamber of Deputies to 122 members, the radio said.

Iran

Protest to Afghanistan — The Foreign Ministry has protested to Afghanistan over the latter's recent "feeble activities" on the border with Iran, Tehran radio announced. Noting that an incident last week near Zabol resulted in loss of life and property, the Foreign Ministry warned the DRA that Iran will react decisively to any repetition of such incidents.

Tehran Explosions — Three people were injured by two car-bomb explosions in Tehran, IRNA reported. The agency described the bombings as a "desperate move by counterrevolutionary elements."

War Policy — Iran's most important condition for an end to the war with Iraq is punishment of the aggressor and it will make no concessions on this issue whatever the price, President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in remarks reported by IRNA. Meanwhile, Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi disclosed that Iran is preparing to produce oil from the captured Iraqi oilfield on the Majnun Islands, according to another IRNA report.

Maghreb Affairs

Moroccan and Libyan officials signed an agreement on security issues and the movement of individuals between the two countries, Rabat radio announced. The agreement specifies the legal framework for cooperation in security matters and also abolishes the system of visas for travel between the two countries.

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Yasir 'Arafat To Tour Arab Capitals

JN261728 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] will visit a number of Arab capitals shortly, leading a Fatah Central Committee delegation. He added that during this visit Abu 'Ammar will explain the current situation following the recent developments in regard to the convening of the PNC. In a statement to AFP in Amman yesterday, Abu Jihad explained that the Fatah Central Committee, during its recent meeting in Tunis, stressed the need for making efforts on various Palestinian, Arab, and international levels to hold the PNC. He added that the goal behind postponing the PNC session is to give a new opportunity to efforts being exerted to hold more dialogue among the Palestinian revolution's groups.

'Arafat Asserts PNC To Be Held on Schedule

JN261710 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking. He said that the PLO rejects tutelage, subservience, containment, and interference in its internal affairs. In a statement to the Saudi newspaper *AL-RIYADH* published today, Abu 'Ammar reiterated that the Palestinian will is the main factor that will guarantee the convocation of the PNC. He said: Our determination will insure that the PNC will be held soon.

PLO's 'Arafat Interviewed on PNC, Syria

PM261011 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22 Sep 84 pp 8-11

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by 'Imad al-Din Adib and Salih Qallab in Tunis — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Syrians say: We have no problem with the Palestinian revolution. Our problem is with Yasir 'Arafat. What do you say?

Answer: This is distorted logic. It is like one Arab state telling another: We have no problems with you. Our problem is with your president.

Question: In your view, is the present Syrian position final and irrevocable, or do you expect an improvement in Syrian-Palestinian relations?

Answer: I do hope that the present Syrian position will not continue because that would complicate matters considerably.

Question: If Syria maintains that position, however, how would the PNC convene?

Answer: That is the problem. Now that the Aden-Algiers agreement has been concluded between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance members, it is imperative that the PNC convene by the end of this month, and a venue must be found for the session.

Question: What factor, if any, could cause the postponement of the PNC session?

Answer: The venue, if we cannot find a place. Here I repeat what [Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf] Brother Abu Iyad said: If we cannot find a venue we will hold our PNC session aboard a ship on the open sea or in a friendly African state.

Question: Has Algeria changed its mind on this matter?

Answer: No, it has not. In fact, the Algerian and Yemeni brothers are interested in reaching some kind of agreement with the Syrian brothers regarding the PNC, particularly following President al-Asad's visit to Algeria where, as is known, he asked Algeria not to host the PNC session. When he visited Libya, President al-Asad also asked Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to host an alternative national council in the Jamahiriyah, but Brother Mu'ammar did not respond to that request. I want to point out here that I have addressed messages to a number of Arab and friendly states asking them to try to persuade Syria to remove its objection to the PNC meeting. I have also paid a series of visits to a number of countries beginning with Saudi Arabia. I met with King Fahd, who assured me of Saudi Arabia's firm stand on the Palestinian question.

Question: Are there alternatives to Algeria as the venue for the PNC session?

Answer: Algeria still wants to host the PNC on its territory, but we also have invitations from the Iranian, Iraqi, and North Yemeni brothers. We also have King Husayn's approval. Other Arab states have also expressed willingness to host the PNC.

Question: You are giving the PNC meeting so much importance. What is on the PNC agenda?

Answer: We have already said and we declare now that we are willing to turn a new page. Once again I say to President al-Asad that Fatah is not the Phalangist Party. Even assuming that it was, well, Syria has come to a kind of understanding with the Phalangists, and it can do the same with us. The time has come for us to rise above our internal problems and face the major challenges, especially since the formation of the new Israeli Government.

Question: It has been noticed that since your departure from Tripoli the questions of the PNC session and the confederation with Jordan have been in jeopardy.

Answer: As far as the PNC is concerned, everyone knows that we can secure a numerical majority. That is why I was of the opinion that the PNC session should have been held on schedule last February, but my colleagues had a different opinion. They wanted to continue the dialogue with the other Palestinian factions.

Question: Are you not worried that a continuation of the present situation could lead to the emergence of a new PNC and a new PLO?

Answer: Our people are capable of distinguishing between the real representatives and those who represent the intelligence services of one state or another.

Question: What is the connection between PNC decisions and confederation with Jordan?

Answer: Confederal relations with Jordan are a different matter. During its last session in Algiers the PNC passed a resolution providing for the establishment of confederal relations between Jordan and Palestine.

Question: But to this day we still do not know the details of the agreement.

Answer: We agreed to initiate Jordanian-Palestinian joint efforts for the promotion of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

Question: Since the Palestinians have no territory, what kind of federation are you talking about?

Answer: That is precisely why Jordan is reluctant. In principle Jordan approves, but when it comes to taking concrete measures it realizes that we have no land. We have no state for Jordan to have a confederation with, but we have begun implementing a joint policy toward the cause.

Question: Some people claim that 'Arafat is still fighting with the same old methods he used in the past which is over and done with and that there now exists a completely new situation.

Answer: This is a prevarication, because I am the one who has said this; I said so in Beirut, but my brothers did not believe me. After 80 days of siege in Beirut I told my brothers: We must realize that our steadfastness in Beirut means that a new phase has begun for Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian revolution. That is why I called for a comprehesive change in Palestinian and Arab strategies, and why I took the step of going to Egypt. Contrary to what some people think, that was not a demonstrative step. It was a step in the right direction, and I shall defend it to the PNC, realizing that my brothers have a right to disagree with me. I want to say something else: The time will come when Arab-Egyptian, including Syrian-Egyptian contacts will be revealed. Such contacts have been extensive, and "let them deny it."

Question: At what level were these contacts held?

Answer: That is not important. What is important is that there are relations.

Question: What is your attitude to the Libyan-Moroccan union?

Answer: Permit me to say that we do not interfere in such matters.

Question: Will you convene the PNC even aboard a ship or on an island?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are you prepared to forget the past and open a new page with Syria?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Will you keep up your efforts in support of the idea of an international conference?

Answer: Yes, on the basis of what we agreed in Fes.

Question: Will you continue to work fo Jordanian-Palestinian confederation?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are you willing to turn a new page with the Palestinian forces with whom you disagree, so that a new phase of Palestinian action may begin?

Answer: Yes. This has already been done in Aden and Algiers.

ALF Calls for Immediate PNC Convocation

JN261751 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The ALF has called for holding the PNC at the earliest possible opportunity. It has also called for freeing the PLO institutions from the paralysis that has afflicted them for more than a year. This came in an ALF statement issued yesterday which warned agaisnt the danger of continuing the current Palestinian situation. The ALF said: We are witnessing a delicate and fateful stage. National response and retaliation to challenges must be fateful and historical in order to remove both the Palestinian cause and revolution to a place where a clearer vision can be obtained.

Sa'id Musa Interviews on Yasir 'Arafat, PNC, Israel

SANA Interview

JN241509 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1245 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 24 Sep (SANA) — Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], member of the Fatah provisional command, has stressed that the Palestinian rightists, represented by Yasir 'Arafat and his clique, are working within a specific and clear-cut program to serve U.S. policy as represented by the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan. He added that any group or side participating in the PNC session before a comprehensive agreement is reached on all issues will be responsible for the split that will result from the convening of the PNC.

Abu Musa also said that 'Arafat has failed politically and that he is in a state of weakness and retreat. However, he added that

overthrowing 'Arafat is not only the responsibility of the uprising and the Palestinian arena as a whole, but also is a Palestinian and Arab responsibility because 'Arafat represents one of the pillars of the U.S. Administration in the region and tries to interpret and peddle U.S. plans to contain the entire region.

Abu Musa further pointed out that the conflict and fighting should be transferred to the occupied land. He added that there are great possibilities for developing militant action against the Zionist tool represented by Israeli militarism. He also said that action in the occupied land is aimed at creating real revolutionary concepts, and continued militant action can grow and escalate in order to deal a blow to the enemy's institutions, military establishments, and economy.

Abu Musa also pointed out that the revolutionary uprising and the Palestinian National Alliance are currently under siege. He said that as far as our thought and trends are concerned, there are no national and progressive regimes in the Arab arena other than Syria confronting imperialist plans. He also added that most of the Arab regimes have courses that differ from ours. Therefore, we do not need to establish alliances with countries such as Jordan and the Qabus regime, but we have broad relations and close alliances with all political and progressive Arab forces.

AL-SIYASAH Interview

GF261434 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 19

[Interview with Muhammad Sa'id Musa Muragha, alias Abu Musa, military commander of the Fatah opposition movement, by *AL-SIYASAH* correspondent Babikir Hasan Maki in Damascus — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: How far have your military operations reached?

Answer: No doubt this is the heart of the differences and struggle in the Palestinian arena. The actions we have taken to oppose the diversion method are for achieving an active and strong tool which will enable the Arab armed struggle to continue against Zionism. To achieve this basic goal, we implemented a long-range strategy aimed at enlightening the path of our national aims. We believe that this line of struggle must be the center of the main struggle area in the occupied territories. We are now adopting an organized struggle plan to be executed in the occupied territories, which include the whole of Palestine. This organization will adhere to political awareness and to the concept of the struggle, which will enable it to rebuild, so that it can shoulder its responsibilities to implement the military operations against the occupying enemy. These actions are not for the media, which serve particular parties, but are a strategy for achieving our programs. We say that we are implementing a political action based on military operations which will allow us to exist under Zionist oppression. In addition, we support the Lebanese resistance in the south through both participation and individual work. We do not talk much about this role; we judge by the results. For example, the mountain war in Beirut resulted in the collapse of the 17 May agreement. Subsequently, after these actions we requested from Israel more withdrawal measures. This will give us the chance to advance further inside the occupied territories.

Question: Many times we have heard rumors about your injury. Some rumors indicated that you were martyred. Where do these rumors come from? How do you evaluate them?

Answer: Actually, every two or three weeks we hear such news, either about an arrest, deportation, or apprehension by the Syrians, as if I am a Syrian official. These rumors are released by the devil powers who know what the reaction of our people would be toward them. Sometimes they say that a woman stormed in and killed him. The recent rumor was released during the Israeli raid against our position in Bahadun. Following one of our operations, I held a press conference attended by foreign correspondents. Immediately after the conference, Israel raided us. The enemy's radio said that our planes launched an attack against a regional position, while Abu Musa was holding a press conference in Al-Biqa'. Strangely, 24 hours after this rumor began, our brothers of the Popular Front claimed responsibility for the operation we executed. I do not know. It seems that these rumors give rise to unbelievable hostility for claiming the blood of our sacrifices, attempting political seige, or releasing different kinds of rumors about the Palestinian Arab arena, or a foreign conspiracy.

Question: According to your beliefs, do you think that there is any possibility for a general war?

Answer: Yes. At least in the near future. I think there will be no general war from now until the U.S. presidential election. The elections will mark the U.S. policy in the region. The U.S. Administration is busy now preparing for the presidential election. I do not think it will get involved in a battle of unknown results.

Question: What are the differences between you and Abu Salih [Nimr Salih]?

Answer: This is a purely organizational case; it has no other dimensions. There are organizational differences. We are in continuous political, organizational, and methodical change. When we achieved political change, we shifted to our organizational position. When we announced that we oppose 'Arafat, it is because of the organizational situation inside the movement. 'Arafat has created so many organizations inside the body of the revolution that the security organs number more than those of the Arab regimes. If we are not the real substitute for all that, we will not be able to translate our political understanding, other than through a clean and unified body. It is not right, for example, to say you are a revolutionary, and then are seen moving day and night from one hall to another. Whoever wants to protect his issue must dedicate himself to it. He must be open to investigation regarding what he eats, drinks, and his behavior toward others. We had a conflict with our brother Abu Salih. He is one of the oldest leaders in the movement. We have no doubt about his loyalty to the cause, but sometimes (hell is full with people with good intentions). Good intentions are not everything. Abu Salih used to say "since our political stand is clear, let us postpone the other matters for awhile." This of course is not right. He used to say there is no need for centralized democracy and mass

leadership. So we have different views about this issue. We presented this matter to a level more legitimate than ours, which is the Revolutionary Council. After a dialogue with brother Abu Salih, we found that we cannot make him adhere to laws, charters, and regulations. He is not assisting in the building of the institution. So a decision for his suspension was made. The suspension decision exists in all revolutionary movements.

Question: How have the political efforts affected the unity of the organization?

Answer: We are still just beginning. The first step is to see that 'Arafat has complied with the logic of mind and consciousness. We said we must adhere to the democratic dialogue, and make the PNC our judge, because it is the wide national base. But 'Arafat, who is adhering to his own private program, felt that he would be denounced if he submitted to democratic dialogue or a general conference, which means he is not ready to abandon his stand. Accordingly, this dispute appeared in Fatah, the Palestinian, and the Arab arena. He knows beforehand that no Palestinian or Arab will fight against him.

That is exactly what I said to Dr George Habash a few days ago. He used to say that we can subject 'Arafat to some regulations. I told him that we have been trying to enforce these regulations on him since 1969. In the end 'Arafat ignored these regulations. The most recent example is the way he ignored the Aden agreement. We think that 'Arafat violated the most important laws of the basic political struggle when he met with the Zionists. Some people believe his visit to Cairo was just a lot of noise. In fact, his visit to Cairo was a crime, as was his meeting with the (Balid) and Zionist representatives. The meetings with them put an end to the basis of this struggle. On this occasion, we say to our brothers in the Democratic Alliance: When shall we adopt a clear stand and end the comedy of hesitation? We are not asking for the removal of Fatah Central Committee leadership. We ask for the adherence to the national stand. The national stand is to reject the Reagan proposal and the confederation project with Jordan.

Question: We observed in part of your talk that you have some reservations toward the PFLP and the DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine]. In light of this, at what stage is the dialogue between the PFLP and the DFLP?

Answer: We blame the PFLP more than the DFLP, because the proposals made by the DFLP give us hope, and they know that when we are besieged, we would always tell them that they are our last hope. Our brethren in the PFLP used to advised us: You are the progressive nationalists inside Fatah and if you do not make a move, raise the banner, and ring the alarm of threat, we cannot. Actually, I knew that if the PFLP, the DFLP, or any other organization had made a move, 'Arafat would have crushed them, but we used to hope that they would be our reserve. We only wanted them to pressure 'Arafat to resort to the democratic dialogue and the general conference, but their indecisive position is regrettably intrinsic opportunism and rejection. They adopted a bystander's stand and poisoned us through their media, particularly through *AL-HADAF* [organ of PFLP]. They agree in their councils that 'Arafat is the one who began the combat. They are against infighting. How can this be harmonized?

'Arafat covered himself with the stands of the PFLP and DFLP until he departed Tripoli. But our comrades in the DFLP, may God forgive them for the corruption they caused on the Palestinian arena in the light of the conflict with 'Arafat, used to smuggle weapons to him so that he could attack us.

Our difference with our comrades in the Democratic Alliance, following six sessions of dialogues, centers on one point, Yasir 'Arafat. We approved in a meeting held at the PNC headquarters on 25 December 1983, under the chairmanship of Khalid al-Fahum and with the participation of PLO Executive Committee members, that 'Arafat, with his policies and visit to Cairo, lost his qualifications and legitimacy in the PLO. Afterward, the retreat began and finally we asked them to clearly define their stand toward 'Arafat. They say that we want to oust 'Arafat from the PNC. How come? 'Arafat was not elected by the PNC. What has the PNC got to do with Yasir 'Arafat's ouster or appointment. 'Arafat is a member of the Executive Committee who represents his organization. Thus, the Executive Committee can meet and oust 'Arafat because it is the one which elected him as a chairman, and not the PNC. I believe that if there is a meeting of the members of the Democratic Alliance, in addition to the National Alliance and the independents, the committee can take legal action to isolate 'Arafat.

Question: Why did the Executive Committee not meet if all that was possible?

Answer: Because our comrades in the Democratic Alliance do not want that.

Correspondent remark: (After the interview was over I asked Brother Abu Musa: Does what you say about the PFLP and DFLP mean that they are still supporting 'Arafat? [punctuation as published]

Answer: Yes, what else can it mean?

Question: You are saying now that you will abide by the Executive Committee's decision regarding 'Arafat; but what will your stand be if the committee meets and refuses to overthrow 'Arafat?

Answer: I mean if the Executive Committee meets and agrees beforehand to overthrow 'Arafat.

PLO Warns Palestinians of Migrating to Brunei

JN261033 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Sep 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — The PLO has warned Palestinians of a new Zionist conspiracy aimed at encouraging them to emigrate to the island of Brunei. This report was issued by the PLO office in Amman.

The statements says: The PLO recalls the attempts by many imperialist states, foremost being the United States and Britain, to displace the Palestinians, both those who live outside their homeland and those who stood fast in their homeland under the brutal and hateful Zionist occupation, in order to resettle them in an evil attempt to entrench the Zionist occupation of Palestine,

to make the Palestinians forget their struggle, and to detach the new Palestinian generation from their cause.

UNRWA has contributed to this evil imperialist-Zionist design. However, our people's steadfastness and awareness and the PLO's confrontation of these designs have foiled them. And now British embassies throughout the Arab world and everywhere Palestinians are located are making announcements on emigration to Brunei, where large amounts of oil have been discovered and which has a population of less than 200,000. This island is located near Indonesia, thousands of miles from Palestine. While reading the bulletin issued by the British embassies, we come across this clear statement: You are going to Brunei as an emigrant. You will be provided with good housing and will make an annual salary of at least $20,000. You will also be granted Bruneian nationality.

The PLO warns the Palestinians of this conspiracy aimed at them, their Arabism, and their cause. It depends on their patriotism and awareness to reject this barbaric imperialist-Zionist plan. The PLO has contributed to securing honest living and work for the sons of our Palestinian people in the Arab world and elsewhere on a temporary basis while maintaining their nationality and Arab and Palestinian affiliation.

Fatah Claims Responsibility for Jerusalem Explosion

JN261916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 26 Sep (SANA) — Fatah has claimed responsibility for the explosion that took place in occupied Jerusalem the day before yesterday. In a statement issued today, a spokesman for Fatah — Al-'Asifah Forces General Command — explained that the female martyr Taghrid al-Batmah group, operating inside the occupied territories, planted an explosive charge in a supermarket in the occupied Jerusalem Jewish quarter. The explosive charge went off at a fixed time after the group had withdrawn and returned safely to base. The spokesman added that the Zionist occupation forces waged an intensive arrest campaign after the operation and several Arab youths were arrested for interrogation. The enemy radio admitted the operation but, as usual, claimed that only material losses were sustained.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Reported

JN261731 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men waged a daring attack against a Zionist military patrol while it was passing near Tyre in occupied southern Lebanon last night. Using machine guns and rockets in their attack, the resistance men destroyed a Zionist military jeep and killed or wounded all of its occupants. Another group of resistance men attacked with machine guns and rockets a Zionist military patrol that was dispatched to the area of the first operation to help the Zionist forces. The resistance men destroyed a large Zionist personnel carrier and killed or wounded all of its occupants. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two heroic operations but refrained from noting his losses. He said, as usual, that his forces besieged the area, waged an intensive search campaign, and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of their links with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to their bases.

Reaction to Reestablishment of Egypt-Jordan Ties

PLO Statement

NC262107 Cairo MENA in English 2058 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, Sept 26 (MENA) — PLO representative in Cairo Zuhdi al-Qudra described the return of relations between Egypt and Jordan as a step in the right direction, saying it will have a positive impact on the Arab future and on the Palestinian cause. In a statement to (MENA), Al-Qudra emphasised that Egyptian-Arab relations will return to normal and said that Egypt has ever been the symbol of Arab steadfastness and a major strategic balance factor. "We have witnessed disasters, and crises engulfed the area in the absence of Egypt, and the Lebanese is an evidence," Al-Qudra said. Menawhile, the external relations representative of the Fatah Movement bureau in Cairo, Usamah Sharabi, commenting on the restoration of links between Egypt and Jordan, said that it is a positive step which should be followed by other steps.

Abu Mayzar Statement

JN261611 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman of the PLO Executive Committee, has stated the following: Out of its commitment to the PNC resolutions, the PLO regards the Jordanian Government's decision to restore political and diplomatic relations with the ruling regime in Egypt before abandoning the Camp David accords a blatant violation of the Arab summit resolutions. Abu Mayzar said the PLO regards the Jordanian Government's decision to abandon the boycott of the Egyptian regime and collective Arab decisions in this regard as a blow to the struggle of the Egyptian national, Palestinian, and Arab forces which are fighting against the Camp David agreements, the Camp David course, and the Egyptian-Israeli agreement.

The PLO's official spokesman affirmed that while it regards this step as an exceptionally dangerous move, the PLO cannot isolate this step from President Reagan's speech at the UN General Assembly yesterday in which he proposed, once again, his plan to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict at the expense of the Palestine issue and the Palestinian people's inalienable rights in order to continue the U.S. policy aimed at imposing U.S. hegemony over the entire region.

Abu Mayzar said: While we express our firm rejection of and resistance to the Camp David agreements, the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, and the Reagan plan, we urge all popular and official Arab forces to thwart this Jordanian move. We affirm that this move cannot possibly help achieve a just solution to the Palestine question. Moreover, this move puts a new obstacle on the path to a real, effective Arab solidarity toward liberating the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and restoring the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, foremost of which are their

right to return, their right to self-determination, and their right to establish their independent state under the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative.

Democratic Alliance Statement

JN261521 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 26 Sep (SANA) — The Palestinian Democratic Alliance has strongly condemned the Jordanian regime's decision to restore relations with Egyptian. The alliance affirmed that this decision is a blatant violation of the Baghdad summit resolutions and aims to liquidate the Palestine question and restore the Camp David regime to Arab ranks. In a press statement issued here today, the Democratic Alliance warned against this dangerous step which reveals the Jordanian regime's attitude following the formation of the new Israeli Government, the approaching date of the U.S. presidential elections, and the proposal, once again, of the Reagan plan. The statement said this step requires immediate action to restore the PLO's unity and entrench the alliance between Syria and the PLO in order to confront capitulatory solutions. Concluding its statement, the alliance stressed the need for confronting this step and taking the necessary measures to deter the Jordanian regime.

Arab League's Klibi Receives Iranian Message

LD262107 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1655 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tunis, 26 Sep (SPA) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi received a message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today. The message was conveyed by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Tunis, Mahmud Seyf Efjehi, during his meeting with the Arab League secretary general.

SPA Reports on Arab League Council Session

LD252240 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1550 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Tunis, 25 Sep (SPA) — The Arab League Council today condemned the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, western Al-Biqa' and the Rashayya area, and called for an immediate cease-fire in accordance with Security Council Resolutions Nos 508 and 509, and for establishing the sovereignty of the Lebanese state throughout Lebanese territory. The official spokesman for the secretary general of the Arab League said in a statement after the conclusion of the 82d ordinary session of the Arab League Council this evening that the Council had alloted considerable time to discussing ways of confronting the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

The Council has decided to support the resistance of the Lebanese people in the south, pointing to the heroic deeds of the Lebanese resistance against the Israeli occupation. The Council also expressed its support for the efforts of the Lebanese Government and its appeal to the UN and to friendly states to secure Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese occupied territory. The Council condemned the repressive Israeli practices in these areas and urged Israel to call a halt immediately in accordance with the clauses of the Geneva Convention of 1949, particularly concerning the expulsion of inhabitants, the destruction of the Lebanese economy in these areas, the imposition of an inhumane blockade, and the use of violence, oppression, and torture against the civilian population. The Council urged the secretary general to continue his efforts to achieve implementation of the Arab resolutions concerning southern Lebanon, and particularly those issued by the 10th Arab summit meeting in Tunis in 1979, aimed at supporting Lebanese resistance in the south.

Concerning the draft laws on terrorism in the United States, the Council asked the foreign ministers of the members to urgently contact the American Administration to explain the Arab viewpoint on this matter and to commission Arab diplomatic missions accredited to the United States to follow up these contacts in order to avoid the passing of any laws enabling pro-Israel groups to threaten Arab interests and to increase hostility to the Arab countries.

Concerning the position of the Vatican toward the issue of Jerusalem and the Palestinian issue, the Council expressed its satisfaction with this position, and recommended the continuation of the contacts between the Arab countries and the secretary general [of the Arab League] and Vatican officials, the continuation of efforts in connection with the Jerusalem issue, and the achievement of peace and self-determination for the Palestinian people, including establishing of their independent country on their land.

Concerning the living standards of the Palestinian people in the occupied land, the Council commissioned the League's General Secretariat and the authorities concerned in the Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO to study the obstacles raised by the occupation authorities to stop development of the occupied territories, and to draft a plan for facing up to these obstacles. The Council also approved in principle a proposal aimed at establishing an international fund for the preservation of economic, cultural, and social institutions.

Concerning the opening of a bureau to look after Israeli interests in Sri Lanka, the Council decided to form a delegation, headed by the secretary general, representing the League's Council and including a number of representatives. This delegation will conduct urgent contacts at the highest level with the government of Sri Lanka to inform them of the Council's resolve to work for the abrogation of this decision in order to preserve Arab-Sri Lankan relations.

The Council also looked into the question of support for the Palestinian confederal organization for Latin America and the Caribbean. It has lauded the initiative taken by the union of Palestinian associations and minorities in Latin American countries and in the Caribbean to hold their first conference and create the Palestinian confederation in order to unite the Palestinian minorities in these countries, link them with the motherland, defend the Palestinian cause, and face up to the Zionist information assault in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Concerning Arab-African cooperation, the Council has charged the secretary general of the League to continue contacts with the secretary general of the OAU and the host state [Ethiopia] in order to prepare for the second Arab-African ministerial conference and to hold it as scheduled.

In the economic domain, the Council discussed several subjects concerning the Arab boycott of Israel.

As for legal affairs, the Council has decided to intensify Arab efforts within international organizations and bodies, and particularly the Security Council, the General Assembly, and international committees concerned with human rights in order to force the Israeli authorities to put an end to their aggression in south Lebanon, in Palestine, and in the Golan; to open the crossing points that link southern Lebanon, western Al-Biqa' and the Rashayya area with the Lebanese regions; and the complete withdrawal from all occupied Lebanese territory without any conditions, in accordance with the UN resolutions and particularly Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 of 1982.

The Council, which met under the chairmanship of the Jordanian permanent delegate to the Arab League, Nabih Nimr, decided to provide emergency food and medical aid to the population of the occupied territories and the various areas of Lebanon that have suffered damage.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister: No Mideast Solution Without Soviets

GF261423 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 25 Sep 84 pp 1, 16

[*AL-QABAS* dispatch from New York]

[Excerpt] Commenting on the speech delivered by U.S. President Ronald Reagan before the UN General Assembly, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and information minister, announced that he will inform U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and other U.S. officials that there will be no solution to the Middle East issue without the participation of the Soviet Union.

Answering a question by *AL-QABAS* on U.S. readiness to accept a Soviet role in finding a solution to the issue, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: What concerns me is this issue, the Middle East issue, before anything else. I believe that the rapprochement undertaken by President Reagan toward the Soviet Union will solve numerous problems. It is likely that the discussion of these issues will be associated with a kind of detente [wifaq] which coincides with the principles of the Soviet initiative. Answering a question on Reagan's commitment to his initiative and to the means of associating this initiative with the President 's announcement regarding Soviet participation in solving the region's issues, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: We must not forget that it is now election time in the United States and no one's words are taken seriously. This talk can be confirmed after the election. When Reagan is the President [as published] then what he says will be interpreted in accordance with the times.

Defense Minister on Upcoming GCC Maneuvers

LD262041 Kuwait KUNA in English 1601 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 26 (KUNA) — Kuwait's defense minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah was quoted here as saying sophisticated Kuwaiti military units will take part in the joint GCC maneuvers which will start shortly in Saudi Arabia.

In an interview with *AL-QABAS* newspaper published Wednesday Shaykh Salim described the upcoming maneuvers as "a message, to whoever is concerned, that people of the Gulf Cooperation Council are united under one umbrella that secures their development and growth." He added that the maneuvers embody the continuous military cooperation among the GCC states and show the increasing capability of the region's armies to defend the people of the Gulf. Talking about the recent meeting of defense ministers of GCC member states Shaykh Salim said the joint military strategy which was reached in the Abha meeting is another proof to the undiminished unity of the Arab states of the Gulf. Shaykh Salim expressed hopes that next November's GCC summit conference would fulfill all ambitions since it comes during extraordinary circumstances.

AL-QABAS Reports on Drug Smuggling Plot

GF261112 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 1

['Abbas Nazim report]

[Excerpts] The day before yesterday, airport police arrested a group of teachers returning from Cairo trying to smuggle drugs into Kuwait through their children. Kuwaiti airport authorities had received information that large-scale smuggling operations would be carried out in the period when teachers were due back from Egypt. The police had prepared a plan for exposing these operations. After searching the male and female passengers of a particular plane and not finding any drugs, it was decided to search the children. Some drugs were found on two children of the same family, one of them 14 years old and the other not more than 10 years old. The drugs were hidden in their clothing. The father, a teacher at one of the Ministry of Education's schools, was arrested. Following interrogation, he admitted he had been working with a syndicate of teachers for the promotion and distribution of these drugs. On the same day a group of airport security men under First Lieutenant Faysal Nawwaf al-Ahmad arrested all the members of the syndicate.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs For United States

GF261446 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Muscat, 26 Sep (WAKH) — Omani Foreign Minister Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah left Muscat today for the United States to attend the UN General Assembly meetings which are currently convening there. Al-'Alawi will deliver his speech before the UN General Assembly on 5 October. During this session, the discussion will focus on the current developments in the Arab and international arenas, foremost of which is the Middle East issue and the Iraqi-Iranian war.

SAUDI ARABIA

Gambian President Leaves Jeddah for UK

LD260856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0543 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 26 Sep (SPA) — Dawda Jawara, his excellency the president of the Republic of Gambia and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, left Jeddah today for London after a 3-day visit to the Kingdom.

Media Reaction to President Reagan's UN Speech

Riyadh Praises Speech

LD261421 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Analysis by 'Abd al-Rahman 'Ali al-Ghamidi]

[Text] The positive Arab reactions to a paragraph in U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech the day before yesterday in the United Nations building in New York, confirm beyond any doubt

that the Arabs were, and still are, looking for a just peace stemming from bases that guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, the establishment of the state of these people on their land, and the recognition of the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. President Reagan confirmed in his speech that the United States will remain a full partner in Mideast negotiations. He also confirmed that negotiations are the way to achieve peace in this troubled region of the world and appealed to the Soviet Union to make a joint effort with his country to resolve the regional problems, including the Mideast issue.

Political observers confirm President Reagan is serious in what he said, and his proposals are not only words said by the American President in order to consolidate his electoral position. The observers add that the President actually thinks about the Middle East crisis and is trying to implement a political action to assert the credibility of the United States toward all sides of the region. They support this opinion by quoting an informed U.S. source who accompanied President Reagan on his visit to the People's Rebublic of China in May of this year. The source says that the American President gathered his advisers in the aircraft and presented them with two ideas, the first on monitoring armament, and the second, on the Middle East problem. President Reagan stressed to his advisers that the time is right for a final settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict. The source says that Reagan presented a comprehensive and detailed review of the problem, which indicates that he is following the problem with great interest. The observers add that despite the American election consuming the American politicians' time and exhausting all American energies dedicated to the election, the issue of revising the U.S. Middle East policy is being studied at the State Department, and the U.S. Administration is reviewing its calculations in the light of this information.

It is certain that President Reagan's speech, which was followed by the observers and which made a good impact in Arab circles because of its inclusion of positive elements, would, if taken seriously, lead to a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, the foreign minister of Bahrain, described the speech of President Reagan as encouraging. He pointed out that including the concerned parties in the peace march in the Middle East will help the matter. Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and minister of information, expressed his satisfaction with the President's speech and expressed his hopes that Reagan's commitment to settle the Middle East crisis will remain valid after the Presidential election campaign.

The solidarity of the Arab and international efforts for solving the Middle East problem is an international duty dictated by human principles and joint interests. But this is not enough faced with the rigidity of the Israeli position and their disregard of international will. Israel rejected the Arab peace offers and also rejected Reagan's peace project as soon as it was announced. Yitzhak Shamir, the enemy's current foreign minister, former prime minister, and Likud leader, rejected Reagan's peace project the same day Reagan made his speech to the UN General Assembly. Shim'on Peres, the head of the so-called new coalition, announced yesterday that his cabinet is divided concerning the peace process and Reagan's project. In spite of this, Yitzhak Shamir and Sim'on Peres, although differing in their styles, share the same outlook — not to recognize the PLO or the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. This makes any peace process in the region very difficult.

Lord Carrington, former British foreign secretary and current NATO secretary general, stressed the necessity of the participation of the PLO as a principal side in any future negotiations concerning the Palestinian issue.

AL-JAZIRAH Praises Speech

GF270538 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* has discussed the positive aspects of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech to the UN General Assembly on peace in the Middle East region. *AL-JAZIRAH* stressed that the U.S. President's affirmation of the rights of people to free and independent homelands involves reassurances for the Palestinian people themselves and is considered a remarkable change in the entire U.S. stance on the Middle East question. *AL-JAZIRAH* noted tomorrow's expected meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, expressing hope that this meeting will result in an agreement between both sides on joint action that will accomplish peace in the region. *AL-JAZIRAH* concluded its editorial hoping that the positive aspects on the Middle East in the U.S. President's address will open a new chapter of better relations between the U.S. and the Arab countries.

AR-RIYADH on Reagan Plan

LD261847 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0640 GMT 26 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh 26 Sep (SPA) — Under the headline "The Palestinian Question Between the Arab and American," *AR-RIYADH* stresses that U.S. policy should be characterized by practicality and truth and represent the proper posture so that saving the Zionist face while ignoring all Arab rights does not remain its goal.

AR-RIYADH underlined the speech by the U.S. President at the United Nations in which he said his plan is still valid because it is based on UN Resolution No 242. *AR-RIYADH* says: Despite this new policy that would save Israel from the Lebanese crisis and give America a face acceptable to all parties, the stand can only be considered to be characterized by practicality if it is accompanied by a proper and speedy action. Even if it is said that this new development is connected with the U.S. election, the principle of having sensed the gravity of the situation in the region cannot be ignored or forgotten.

The paper explains that Israel is trying to get out of the Lebanese crisis by any means that will save face, and the collapse of the Israeli economy also places U.S. policy in a difficult situation. It

added that Israel possibly wants evacuation from Lebanon in return for huge American material and military support in order to give the impression at the international level that it does not want to continue the occupation and, at the same time, not to admit defeat. The paper stresses that the U.S. position has more weight and can exert more pressure if exploited for the benefit of U.S. policy itself. *AR-RIYADH* says that the American formula, including the Reagan plan, is not a practical and fair solution to the Palestinian question.

The Arab plan approved at the Rabat summit conference is the correct formula, especially because it treats the question from its historical aspect and its international ramifications, (?is based) on the United Nations and Security Council resolutions, and is accepted by the Arabs and other countries.

In conclusion, the paper stresses that the Arab plan will become a suitable formula in all conditions if intentions are genuine and true and if the Arabs want to end the occupation and endorse Palestinian rights.

Saudi King Orders Reports on Contracts

LD261420 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz yesterday evening chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers. Following the meeting Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir stated to SPA, radio, and TV that at the beginning of the meeting the Council listened to his majesty the king who made a comprehensive, direct statement dealing with security, social, economic, and financial issues, including the systems of public tenders.

His majesty issued directives to their highnesses and excellencies the ministers to submit detailed and urgent reports at the beginning of next week regarding the balance of revenues and expenditures and the commitments of each ministry, including what projects have been contracted, and the system of payment made to companies,establishments, and contractors at various levels. They should also explain any financial difficulties or obstacles encountered by each ministry in carrying out projects, and the extent to which each contractor has fulfilled his contract to date. These requests come on the occasion of the end of the Hijrah year 1404 and reaching the middle of the financial year 1404-1405.

This royal directive stems from his majesty's concern to continue to follow up the progress of work in all government establishments and to acquaint himself with the issues relating to these projects and their implementation, and to guarantee that all those who may be entitled to anything — citizens or contractors — should receive whatever they are entitled in accordance with the regulations and the stipulations of the agreements between the two parties.

YAR

Reportage on National Day Celebration

French Minister Attends

GF270606 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] A French delegation headed by Louis Mexandeau, minister of telecommunication and posts, arrived in San'a' today on a 3-day official visit to our country. The delegation will participate in our people's festivities of the 22d anniversary of the 26 September glorious revolution. In a statement to SABA' news zgency, the French minister said that during the visit he will convey a message to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, president of the Republic of France. He said he would hold discussions with Brother Ahmad al-'Ansi, minister of communication and land and air transport, on means of promoting bilateral cooperation relations.

PDRY Chairman Sends Congratulations

GF262014 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, today received a telephone call from his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, in which he congratulated him on the 22d anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution, and our people's achievements attained by the glorious revolution. SABA' news agency has learned that the conversation dealt with the results of efforts exerted by the two parties for preserving the unity of the Palestinian factions. The brother leader president hailed the great efforts exerted by Brother Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad for the success of the Palestinian dialogue, for preserving Palestinian unity, and their splendid struggling gains.

Foreign Minister Departs for UN Session

GF262005 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, minister of foreign affairs and secretary of the Standing Committee heading our country's delegation, left San'a' today for New York to attend the 39th session of the United Nations General Assembly. In a statement to SABA' news agency, Brother al-Asbahi stated that our country's delegation will participate in a number of meetings to be held within the framework of this session, including the meeting of the seven-member Arab committee of the Arab League which convened in Baghdad in March this year, the Islamic foreign ministers conference, the nonaligned ministerial conference, and the annual meeting of the Group of 77 conference.

Dr al-Asbahi added that he will hold meetings and consultations with foreign ministers of the Red Sea countries on preparations for the forthcoming meeting of these countries which will convene at the foreign minister level. Brother minister said that these meetings and consultations reflect our foreign policy and the wise and constructive efforts of the brother leader president, secretary general of the General People's Congress, foremost of which was the election of our country as vice chairman of the 39th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Ghali Hails Restoration of Relations With Jordan

NC260516 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has welcomed the resumption of Egyptian-Jordanian relations. Dr Ghali has described the restoration of relations between the two countries as a positive step that reflects the quintessence of Arab solidarity.

Embassy Reopenings Discussed

NC261123 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today met with Shahir Bakr, Jordanian charge d'affaires in Cairo. During the meeting, Ghali expressed Egypt's pleasure at the restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations. Ghali praised the decision made by Jordanian monarch King Husayn and the Jordanian Government, describing it a step forward on the road to peace.

The two officials discussed the arrangements related to the reopening of the Jordanian and Egyptian Embassies in Cairo and Amman and the exchange of ambassadors that is expected to take place over the next few days. It is noteworthy that this meeting is the first official contact between the Egyptian and Jordanian Governments following last night's decision to restore normal diplomatic relations.

Ghali News Conference

NC261346 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, stated that Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt was an extremely positive step in the Arab interest. During his meeting today with international and local reporters, Dr Ghali said the step would help the resumption of talks on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, particularly since Egypt's stand is based on the need for coordinating and cooperating with Jordan regarding any future negotiations on the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Replying to a question on whether Jordan's decision came as a surprise to Egypt, Dr Ghali said there have been contacts between Egypt and Jordan for the past 3 years. Asked about the country which will follow Jordan's lead and restore its relations with Egypt and whether this country is Iraq, Dr Ghali said: I have no idea, but we welcome any Arab country which would follow Jordan's example.

Replying to another question, Dr Ghali said: There is no doubt this example could be followed by other countries.

On whether this step represents pressure on Israel to sit at the peace table, Dr Ghali said: I believe there is no connection between Arab reconciliation and the relationship between Egypt and Israel.

On the effects of this step on the future of the Palestinians, Dr Ghali said: We are not prepared to begin new talks on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip without the participation of Jordan and the Palestinians. Therefore, the restoration of ties between Egypt and Jordan would naturally provide better coordination between them regarding future negotiations on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On whether the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan came about because of the change in the Israeli Government, Dr Ghali said there is no connection whatsoever between the two matters, adding that the important thing is not a change in the Israeli Government but a change in Israeli policy, which has not yet been altered. Asked if Egypt believes that a change in Israeli policy is possible, Dr Ghali said: This is a hope.

Asked about the date when Cairo and Amman will exchange ambassadors, Dr Ghali said: I do not know the date, but I believe that within the next few days President Husni Mubarak will name the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan. Likewise, King Husayn of Jordan will select his ambassador to Egypt. We hope this will take place in the next few days.

'Ali on Restored Ties

NC261337 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stressed that the decision to restore relations between Jordan and Egypt is a positive one that embodies the reality of the fraternal ties between the two peoples and expresses their joint faith in the importance of unified Arab action to confront the challenges facing the Arab nation and its fateful issues. In an exclusive statement to MENA, 'Ali said the decision proves the ability of Egypt and Jordan to rise up to the responsibility consistent with the importance of unified Arab ranks to confront the dangers of the historic stage through which the Arab nation is passing. 'Ali added that there is no doubt that this joint effort will play a role in achieving a just, permanent, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Presidential Office Welcomes Ties

NC261603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1518 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — The Arab Republic of Egypt has welcomed the resumption of full diplomatic relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as an important step toward strengthening Arab solidarity. A statement issued by the Presidential Office this evening affirmed that this step is a true reflection of the two countries' belief that the fateful national issues demand that all Arab peoples, at this important historic juncture, turn to achieving the supreme national aims with all the strength they possess and with the seriousness dictated by the gravity of the situation.

The Arab Republic of Egypt experssed the hope that everyone will rise to the level of the challenge and avoid maneuvering and outbidding which are inconsistent with the scope of the responsibility. The text of the Presidency's statement is as follows:

The Arab Republic of Egypt welcomes the resumption of full diplomatic relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as

an important step toward strengthening Arab solidarity and mobilizing the resources of our glorious nation to confront the grave challenges facing its march.

This step is a true reflection of the two countries' belief that the fateful national issues demand that all the Arab peoples, at this important historic juncture, turn to achieving the supreme national aims with all the strength they possess and with the seriousness dictated by the gravity of the situation. The foremost of these aims is to maintain the strategic security of the Arab nation, to safeguard its legitimate rights, and to establish a just and comprehensive peace based on respect of rights, abidance of duties, the principles of legitimacy, and the rule of law.

The Arab Republic of Egypt hopes everyone will rise to the level of the challenge and avoid maneuvering and outbidding, which are inconsistent with the scope of the responsibility we all shoulder. This is because the judgment of history is based on the ability to make tangible achievements with which the nation can move to future horizons. It is unacceptable for the Arab nation to fail in achieving what all other nations have achieved, with regard to their aims, the establishment of their priorities, and the consolidation of their basic rights and interests in an era during which dangers and challenges are increasing.

AFP: Sources Say Suez Gulf Mine 'Terrorist Device'

NC261325 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, Sep 26 (AFP) — A mine discovered in the Gulf of Suez may be of Soviet origin and should enable experts to trace who laid it, reliable sources said here today. The sources described it as a "terrorist" device and said it was designed to be fired from a submarine, but could have been laid by a suitably equipped ship.

The mine, three metres (10 feet) long and 50 centimetres (20 inches) in diameter, was discovered by British minehunters 15 kms (nine miles) south of Suez near a navigation channel earlier this month. "It is a discovery of paramount importance and will allow the most recent user to be traced," the source said.

The Egyptian authorities have said several times they suspected Iran and Libya of being involved in the mine-laying. A Libyan ship, the *Ghat*, made two "suspicious" journeys in the Red Sea several days before a mysterious series of explosions, which damaged 17 ships between mid-July and mid-August.

The mine was the only recent device found by the multi-national minehunting force which scoured the Red Sea at Egypt's request. It was being examined by British experts who were to submit their conclusions to the Egyptian military authorities in the next few days.

'Abd al-Majid on Middle East, Reagan Speech

NC261000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0850 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt is prepared to examine any initiative that can bring a just and comprehensive peace to the Middle East. The foreign minister hinted in this respect to the Egyptian-French proposal — filed with the UN Security Council — for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned. Speaking yesterday to the Voice of America, 'Abd al-Majid expressed hope that the new Israeli Government's approach to the Middle East problem will differ from that of the previous one. Egypt, he said, is waiting until the new government spells out its positions — a process which we are closely watching.

The Voice of America correspondent asked 'Abd al-Majid about Egyptian-Iraqi cooperation and the way it relates to the Gulf crisis. 'Abd al-Majid answered: The relations between Egypt and Iraq are as good as can be. They are excellent. But, he added, this does not stop us from asking both Iran and Iraq to negotiate to end their futile war.

'Abd al-Majid commented on the speech delivered by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the UN General Assembly 2 days ago. He expressed his belief that there are some encouraging signs in the way Reagan approached several issues, particularly the way he referred to U.S. respect for nonaligned countries, to U.S. interest in African issues and the Middle East problem, and to the U.S. role as a full participant in the Middle East talks, and the way he underscored the initiative made on 1 September 1982. All this, 'Abd al-Majid said, fully corresponds to the Egyptian position.

Cairo Reports Reagan To Receive 'Abd al-Majid

NC260753 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will convey a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to President Reagan today. President Reagan will receive 'Abd al-Majid in the Oval Office at the White House later in the day. MENA has learned that Mubarak's message is devoted to the latest developments in the Middle East with special emphasis on renewed peace efforts in the area, the U.S. role, the government change in Israel, the Egyptian-Israeli dispute over Tabah, the situation in Lebanon, the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon, and the growing Egyptian-U.S. relations.

The Egyptian foreign minister will arrive in Washington from New York this morning to meet with President Reagan in the afternoon. The meeting was fixed late last night upon the Egyptian minister's request.

Richard Murphy Concludes Visit, Departs for Amman

NC261036 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, left Cairo this morning on his way to Amman at the conclusion of his 1-day visit to Egypt, during which he met with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. Murphy was seen off at Cairo airport by Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. ambassador in Cairo.

Al-Baz Receives Soviet Ambassador in Cairo
NC261351 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for political affairs, received in his office today Soviet Ambassador in Cairo Aleksandr Belonogov for acquaintance purposes.

Mubarak Plans 4-Day Visit to FRG in October
NC270519 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — In a report from Bonn, *AL-AKHBAR* says that President Husni Mubarak will begin an official 4-day visit to the FRG on 30 October. The paper says in its Thursday's issue that during his visit President Mubarak will hold talks with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl on ways to bring vitality to the European role in the Middle East. The president will also meet with the leaders of the German political parties represented in parliament.

The paper says that during his meeting in New York with FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid discussed the preparations for this visit.

Saddam Husayn Receives Egyptian Delegation

JN271405 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stated that Iraq and Egypt constitue a humanitarian and national whole, in addition to being one family. This is a gain for the Arab nation and for every sincere person from the Atlantic to the Gulf. President Saddam Husayn said this when he received a group of Arab Egypt's sons this morning. President Saddam Husayn added that pan-Arab values are mobilized when the Arab nation carries out a sound evaluation, while lofty values are mobilized in times of distress.

President Saddam Husayn said: From this premise, we look confidently to the future, because the principles of the one family enjoyed by the Arab nation continue to exist despite all the international conspiracies against these principles.

President Saddam Husayn reiterated that the ruling clique in Iran will not carry out any offensive against Iraq and that a catastrophe will befall it if it does. He stressed that these rulers' only choice is to refrain from their evil course and designs and proceed on the course of peace. This alone will save them from the disaster into which they are marching.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,600

JN261701 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,600 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the blessed anniversary marking the exodus of the most noble Arab prophet and his honorable companions, who carried in their hearts and consciences the message of heaven and mankind's hope for well being and righteousness, and who defended this message with their pure blood and honorable actions, the great Iraqi people and Army under the leadership of Saddam Husayn, grandson of the originator of the merciful message [Islam] and the inheritor of Islamic glory, are defending the same principles and keeping the land of missions and the homeland of the chaste imams safe from the danger of aggression and foolish ignorance.

They are also devoting themselves, just like their ancestors, to uphold the word of God and trample down the word of hypocrites. Their glory will last forever. They defended the spirit of Islam admirably, defended the honor of Arabism, fought bravely for the sake of freedom and justice, and gallantly struggled for peace and were real heroes of their age. Their banner will continue to be uplifted, their pure land free from any filth, and their human values that are derived from the inspiration of heaven will remain a minaret that guides people to the right course.

The results of the activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. The brave artillery men dealt effective blows to a number of enemy targets in the operational area east of Basra, inflicting losses in men and equipment. These included the destruction of two infantry positions with their occupants killed, in addition to the destruction of three hardware stockpiles and one machine gun. One vehicle was burned and large fires were started in other positions in the same sector.

2. A group of our heroic fighters managed to capture two enemy troops in the northern sector of the operational theater. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units pounded the enemy positions and troops with artillery, killing or wounding several troops. The enemy was seen evacuating them.

3. One large vehicle was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. Yesterday evening and this morning, the vile enemy shelled the Basra environs, demolishing two houses and damaging a third one.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1984

Iranian Claim of Bombing Denied at Conference

JN270937 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Vienna, 27 Sep (INA) — Iraq has asserted that Iran has no scientific evidence to support its claims that Iraqi planes bombed its nuclear installations in Bushehr last March. Dr Rahim 'Abd (al-Kati), Iraqi delegate to the IAEA conference, while replying to the Iranian delegate's speech last night, said that the Iraqi forces did not carry out any war activities in that area on 24 March. This, he said, can be proved by referring to the Iraqi as well as the Iranian military communiques for that day.

The Iraqi delegate made it clear that the IAEA Board of Governors rejected Iranian demands, which were presented to the IAEA last June with the aim of presenting the Iranian complaint to the IAEA conference, because the necessary evidence was lacking.

Answering the Iranian representative's remarks at the conference, the Iraqi delegate said: Iran's move is aimed at realizing propaganda gains. It does not serve any useful purpose. A nuclear station cannot be attacked with one missile, as the Iranian delegate alleged.

Iran Accused of Acquiring Arms From U.S., Israel

GF261218 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, the aggressive war imposed on Iraq by the Iranian rulers has now entered its 5th year. While fighting in a heroic way to defend the Iraqi homeland during all this time, the Iraqi people have also demonstrated that they are relentless fighters for peace as well. Together with all other peace-loving peoples, they have kept the invincible banner of security and peace flying high. With a view to achieving this objective, they have made every possible effort to end the war.

Regrettably, however, the Iranian rulers have broadened the sphere of their treacherous provocations with a view to intensifying the war — regardless of Iraq's humane and peace-loving moves. They have even resorted to useless crimes. With the intention of disrupting peace and security in the region, they have acquired arms from the United States and Israel. They have prepared for war, subjected our villages and towns to artillery shellings, and killed innocent people. They have resorted to every kind of unworthy insults and [word indistinct] in their response to the peace calls made by international organizations and associations. They have interfered in the internal affairs of Iraq and other Arab countries and engaged in disruptive activities. Regardless of the great losses they have suffered at the battlefronts, these impostor rulers are still continuing to send the poor Iranian people and their innocent children to the battlefronts by force with a view to organizing new offensives.

Nevertheless, the 4-year-long war has proved that the Iraqi Army is invincible. No matter how much the Iranian rulers wish to intensify the war, they will not be able to defeat Iraq. This is due to the fact that Iraq wholeheartedly believes in defending its legitimate rights and honor. Iraq's conviction is that the side that holds a righteous stand in the war cannot be defeated. Therefore, the sincere effort made by Iraq and all other peace-loving peoples can be an effective opportunity for consolidating peace in the region and completely eliminating the provocations by imperialism and Zionism.

Syria Reportedly Bars Entry of Jordanians

JN261538 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1513 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Amman, 26 Sep (INA) — The Syrian authorities today barred the Jordanian students who left for Damascus to attend Syrian institutes and universities from entering Syria.

It was learned here today that the Syrian authorities also barred the entry of several Jordanian citizens who were traveling to Syria as tourists or visitors.

This Syrian measure comes in the wake of Jordan's decision to restore its political and diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Oil Pipeline Project Agreement Signed in Baghdad

JN271155 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1116 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA) — Iraq and two foreign companies today signed a contract to implement the first stage of laying an Iraqi pipeline to export crude oil across Saudi territory. The 640-km pipeline will cost $508 million.

The first stage of the project will provide for exporting 500,000 barrels of oil per day and will be completed within 11 months.

Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi signed for Iraq and representatives of the two companies in Iraq signed for their respective companies.

The Iraqi pipeline, which connects with the Saudi crude pipeline, Petroline, is one of the projects decided on by the Iraqi leadership in order to find new ways of exporting Iraqi crude.

Taqi expressed his pleasure with the results reached so far because the project is being implemented by expert international companies from countries with whom Iraqi has advanced economic and political relations.

He said that Iraq will shortly announce the implementation of the second stage of the project. He expressed his confidence that the project will be implemented on schedule because of the ability of the implementing companies and Iraq's desire to complete the project as soon as possible.

The minister expressed Iraq's appreciation to the Saudi officials for their sincere desire to carry out the project.

Baghdad Azeri Calls for Revolution in Azarbayjan

GF261942 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] O honorable but unsafe people of Azarbayjan: The new rulers in Tehran are currently putting forward rousing slogans with a view to making you relinquish the objective you have been struggling to achieve over the past 50 years.

Furthermore, they are dragging you into a meaningless war which has no objective with the intention of diverting your attention from internal dissensions, suffocation, and daily problems of life. In return for your rightful complaints, they are threatening you with death, exile, and dishonor.

The crimes committed by the shah of Iran during his era are now being repeated again. Whenever the shah of Iran felt a growing agitation, gendarmes were placed at [word indistinct], the doors and windows of houses, the blue [word indistinct] mosques, and minarets. But the brave sons of Azarbayjan did not [words indistinct] and without any fear acted like wounded lions.

The present oppressive regime is moving in the same direction. In every moment of this bloody regime's rule, the sons of Azarbayjan are witnessing that more and more children are becoming orphans and more and more mothers are being left without their husbands.

While we are not physically at your side, the situation is exasperating. Further silence is tantamount to destruction. O youths, it is time for the revolution. Protect yourselves from the evil of those deceitful elements. Yes, protect yourselves.

King Husayn Receives Richard Murphy 26 Sep

JN261409 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received in Al-Nadwah Palace at noon today Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Discuss Murphy's Mideast Talks

JN261626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — At noon today His Majesty King Husayn received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, at the Al-Nadwah Palace. Murphy conveyed a message to his majesty from U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

During the meeting, the talks revolved around the current problems in the Middle East. Murphy briefed his majesty on the results of his tour of a number of the region's countries. He also explained the points he covered during his talks with officials in Lebanon, Syria, and Israel on the terms of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Murphy also discussed with his majesty the mutual points that were approved by officials in both Damascus and Beirut on the one hand and in Tel Aviv on the other. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

AL-DUSTUR on Murphy's Tour

JN270858 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-DUSTUR* comments on the U.S. envoy's tour: The tour of Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, of a number of capitals in the region — including Amman — is the first U.S. diplomatic move of its kind in the Middle East since last spring. Certainly, while in Amman Murphy has listened to Jordan's viewpoint on the various issues that concern the United States as well as Jordan's assessment of the course of U.S. policy in the region, the Jordanian leadership's diagnosis of the current situation in the Middle East, and recent developments which have complicated and increased tension during the past few months.

Because Murphy's tour coincides with President Reagan's announcement of adherence to his peace plan and emphasis that UN Resolution 242 is the basis for this plan, this tour is certainly more significant. Thus, observers may consider Murphy's current tour as a reactivation of the U.S. diplomatic move in the region — which suffered a setback following successive failures due on the one hand to Israeli intransigence and on the other to U.S. hesitation.

AL-DUSTUR adds: Without holding too much hope, we do hope that such a move, which comes just before the U.S. presidential election whose results now seem almost certain, will be accompanied by a U.S. trend that is fairer and shows better understanding of the region's realities, rights, and demands — foremost of which are the Palestinians' legitimate rights. We also hope that such a move will have deeper comprehension of the lessons which have enriched the U.S. political experience in the Middle East. This is because Israel's intransigence and the Tel Aviv leaders' rejection of any just political effort have been the cause of the deteriorating situation in the region, which has become more tense and vulnerable to threats due to the blind U.S. bias toward the Israeli viewpoint.

AL-DUSTUR concludes: Thus, the beginning of any possible positive developments primarily depends on the U.S. reconsidering its current Middle East policy as a prelude for rebuilding a U.S. stand based on rights and justice, emanating from the UN resolutions and in harmony with long-term U.S. interests. Only this can make us wager on a possible U.S. role in the future.

Prime Minister on Relations With Egypt

JN261121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has stated that Jordan's decision to resume political and diplomatic relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt is an advanced political decision in complete harmony with Jordan's pan-Arab visualization of our nation's future. 'Ubaydat added that this decision entrenches Arab solidarity, which the government and people of this country believe in under the wise and courageous leadership of His Majesty King Husayn. Jordan proceeds from the principles of the great Arab revolution in which this country believes.

In an interview with Jordan radio today, the prime minister said that the decision is a step to check the retreat in the pan-Arab march and is also a serious attempt to end the prevailing paralysis in Arab progress. The prime minister said the new Egyptian leadership is an Arab leadership which deserves support and assistance. This leadership views the Arab nation's causes from its pan-Arab responsibility.

Prime Minister 'Ubaydat praised the Arabism and genuineness of the Egyptian people and their sacrifices for the sake of the Arab nation and its fateful causes.

Further Comment

JN261509 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1227 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat by an unidentified Amman radio correspondent in Amman on 26 September; carried within the "Newsreel" program — passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: In an interview with Amman radio today, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat explained the reasons for Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with

fraternal Egypt. He said: "In fact, I can say in this regard that this is an advanced political decision that is in full harmony with Jordan's pan-Arab view of our Arab nation's future. This decision entrenches Arab solidarity, in which the government and people in this country believe, under the wise and courageous leadership of His Majesty King Husayn — a leadership that is loyal to the principles of the great Arab revolution for the sake of the Arab citizens. When I say for the sake of Arab citizens, I mean for the sake of Arab unity, honor, and rights and in defense of their pan-Arab and cultural identity during the current delicate circumstances."

"If there is further comment on this topic, I can say that this decision is a step to check the retreat in the pan-Arab march. It is also a serious attempt to end the state of paralysis which has recently been prevailing over the Arab march. It is a sincere Arab Jordanian attempt to revive Arab relations in order to strengthen the aspirations of Arab peoples and to increase their self-confidence and their confidence in their honest leaderships. Therefore, to explain this decision more clearly it msut be understood that it is an invitation to meet the challenges we are currently confronting along with the Arab nation at this stage, hoping to overcome the stage of stalemate and paralysis that has dominated joint Arab action."

Answering a question about Egypt's stands during President Husni Mubarak's reign, particularly toward the current Arab issues, Prime Minister 'Ubaydat said: "Our evaluation of the Egyptian stand is part of evaluating any precise and neutral stand. The Egyptian people are genuine Arab people and have a historical role that cannot be denied. Their sacrifices and struggle for the sake of the Arab nation's issues are great, well known, and we are proud of them. The new Egyptian leadership looks positively toward the Arab nation and its fateful causes,and moves toward them with the same spirit. Thus, it must be met with the same spirit. Our pan-Arab responsibility dictates to us to move steadily and alertly in a serious attempt to entrench a new Arab stand that is more coherent. We hope that this Jordanian stand and decision will constitute an effective, positive, and advanced step to safeguard Arab rights and to regain the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in the occupied territory."

On the expected reactions to Jordan's decision to restore its relations with Egypt, the prime minister said: "While Jordan adopts this stand it bases its move on respecting Arab interests in general and on respecting the interests of the Jordanian people and bilateral relations with the Arab people in Egypt. Jordan is aware of the circumstances and seriously views the achievement of the aspirations of the citizens in the Arab homeland. While it assesses this step, Jordan awaits reactions with optimism and hope. Therefore, Jordan is primarily concerned about the postive responses that have begun to appear in various parts of the Arab homeland. If there will be negative reactions, we will let the Arab peoples' unanimity decide them. This is all that I can say at this time and I believe it is sufficient."

Al-Masri on Restoration of Ties

JN261832 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Interview with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri by Huda Tawfiq, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in New York; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Huda Tawfiq] The restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations dominated the Arab climate at the United Nations, which considered it the most serious decision since the severance of Arab relations with Egypt following the peace treaty. Everyone is asking about the justifications, dimensions, and reasons for this decision. Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri talks to us about these dimensions and reasons.

[Al-Masri] We consider the restoration of diplomatic relations between Jordan and Egypt a logical and natural step. We have been considering this move for some time, especially after Egypt in the era of President Husni Mubarak has proven that it appreciates and supports the Arabs stands, as it used to do in the past. We felt that it was time for Jordan to restore its diplomatic relations with Egypt. We believe that this step will benefit the joint Arab action, which is currently at its lowest degree. Egypt's return to the Arab fold may be gradual, but it will bolster the joint Arab action.

[Tawfiq] Were there contacts between His Majesty King Husayn and the other Arab countries regarding this step?

[Al-Masri] Several Arab states were aware of Jordan's way of thinking.

[Tawfiq] Do you think that this contravenes the Baghdad summit resolutions?

[Al-Masri] There is no Arab summit resolution stipulating the severance of diplomatic relations with Egypt. There is a recommendation by the Arab foreign ministers in this regard. There is no summit resolution.

[Tawfiq] By this you mean that the circumstances under which relations were restored were natural ones and may apply to any other Arab country.

[Al-Masri] Yes. Any Arab state can also restore these relations. An example we have shows that three Arab countries have not severed relations with Egypt. Therefore, the severance of relations was a decision for each country to make.

Egypt's Ghali on Restored Ties

JN261250 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1232 GMT 26 Sep 84

[From the newsreel]

[Text] Ladies and Gentlemen: We telephoned Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, in Cairo today. He spoke about Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt. He said:

[Begin recording] I can say that the restoration of relations is a positive step on the path of strengthening Arab solidarity. This step reflects the close relations between the two countries, peoples, governments, and heads of state. We hope the restoration of relations will contribute to defending the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. [end recording]

Egypt's Al-Baz To Arrive With Message 27 Sep

JN270929 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Sep 84 pp 1, 18

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* has learned that Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's Political Office, will arrive in Ammman today on a short visit,during which he will bring a message to His Majesty King Husayn from President Mubarak. This will be Dr al-Baz' first visit to Amman following the restoration of diplomatic and political relations between the two countries.

An official source in Cairo said yesterday that the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Jordan will take place in a few days. It is worth noting that the Pakistani Embassy in Cairo has been running the Jordanian interests section while Jordanian-Egyptian relations were severed.

Al-Baz Arrives With Message

JN271018 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the Egyptian president's Political Office, arrived in Amman today on a visit to Jordan during which he will deliver a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his excellency the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

In a statement to PETRA, Al-Baz described the decision to restore diplomatic and political ties with Egypt as a historical, courageous step that shows obvious genuine Arab character and profound vision concerning Arab aims. He said this pan-Arab step affirms that His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian people view the challenges that face us from a historical perspective based on correct vision and profound awareness of the priorities of the Arab nation at this critical stage.

King, Queen To Visit Netherlands, Sweden

JN261518 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — A responsible source at the Royal Hashemite Court has said that at the invitation of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and her husband His Highness Prince Klaus, and at the invitation of His Majesty King Karl Gustav of Sweden and his wife Queen Silvia, Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur will pay an official visit of a few days to both the Netherlands and Sweden in early October 1984. During this visit, the king will hold talks with high-ranking officials in the Netherlands and Sweden on strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and both friendly countries. Their majesties will be accompanied by an official delegation comprising a number of high-ranking officials.

Yasir 'Arafat Makes Statement to PETRA

JN261457 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman early this morning on a visit to Jordan.

'Arafat said that his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn this evening will deal with Jordanian-Palestinian efforts to bolster the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied homeland, with the situation in the Arab arena, and with the developments in the Arab and international arenas regarding the Palestine question.

In a statement to PETRA, 'Arafat added that there are grave developments concerning the Gulf war and that attempts are under way to prevent the PNC from convening its 17th session. He also described the new Israeli Government, which includes the Labor Party and the Likud, as a war government and said that this requires a joint Jordanian-Palestinian position to deal with terrorism and the daily crimes being committed against our people in the occupied land.

He added: I have come to Amman to meet with His Majesty King Husayn and officials in Jordan in order to hold consultations with them, and that the visit was supposed to take place earlier but was postponed due to His Majesty King Husayn's presence abroad.

Confers With Husayn

JN261937 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Al-Nadwah Palace this evening.

The meeting, including a working dinner, was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territories; Lieutenant General Tariq 'Ala' al-Din, director of the intelligence service; and Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

It was also attended by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Brigadier General 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, the PLO Executive Committee's representative in Jordan; and Brigadier General Ahmad 'Afanah, chief of staff of the Palestinian forces.

The meeting was still in progress at the time of this news bulletin.

Further on Talks

JN270630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Excerpt] A press source at the Royal Hashemite Court has said that the talks of the Jordanian side led by His Majesty King Husayn and the Palestinian side led by Yasir 'Arafat dealt with exchanging views on the latest developments in the Arab arena. He added that the talks centered on developing coordination between Jordan and the PLO concerning a number of Palestinian issues, including holding the PNC.

'Arafat briefed the king on developments in the Palestinian arena in this regard. The talks also dealt with the means of promoting support for the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories. The two sides assessed the methods of joint moves in the international arena in order to gain support for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

Sharaf on 'Arafat Visit, Egypt, Murphy Trip

JN261841 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpts] King Husayn received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, in Amman today. The talks dealt with the future U.S. policy in the region and Jordan's move to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

In another development, Jordanian-Palestinian talks are due to begin in the Jordanian capital this evening between the Jordanian monarch and Yasir 'Arafat. Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] confirmed to PETRA-JNA that his visit is aimed at holding discussions on bolstering the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied land as well as on developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. Informed sources in Amman said that Yasir 'Arafat would discuss with King Husayn the possibility of convening the PNC in Amman if it was impossible for the PNC to convene its session in Algeria.

The current visit of Murphy and Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan came a few hours after the Jordanian Government's announcement of restoring its diplomatic relations with Egypt following a 5-year hiatus. However, Jordanian Information Minister Layla Sharaf confirmed to us today that there is no direct relationship between the two visits and Jordan's decision. She added that 'Arafat's talks in Amman are part of the existing dialogue beteen the PLO and the Jordanian Government and fall within the framwork of Yasir 'Arafat's attempt to overcome Palestinian divisions and to convene the PNC session. Responding to a question, the Jordanian information minister said that Jordan's decision is not considered a unilateral violation of the Arab summit resolutions. The Baghdad conference had recommended severing relations with Egypt, but gave each Arab country the freedom to choose in this regard.

Regarding the dangers of Arab divisions that might result from the Jordanian move, Layla Sharaf stressed that a state of polarization exists in the Arab world and that the restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt will overcome this polarization and close the Arab ranks.

On President Ronald Reagan's plan, the Jordanian minister said that this plan can be resubmitted if its framework is expanded to include the developments that have recently taken place, especially in Israel.

On another level, informed Arab sources in Amman said today that Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, director of President Husni Mubarak's political office, is due to arrive in Amman within a few hours with a message to King Husayn from Husni Mubarak.

Al-Masri Confers With Counterparts in New York

JN270716 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] New York — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri yesterday received the foreign ministers of the PRC, Ireland, Greece, Romania, and Australia. Al-Masri discussed with the PRC foreign minister bilateral relations and a number of topics on the UN General Assembly agenda; particularly the Palestine question, the international conference for peace, and Jordan's support for this conference. He also met separately with the foreign ministers of Ireland, Greece, Romania, and Australia and discussed Jordan's bilateral relations with their countries and matters of common concern on the UN General Assembly agenda.

DER SPIEGEL Interviews President al-Jumayyil
DW260909 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 24 Sep 84 pp 167-174

[Interview with President Amin al-Jumayyil by *DER SPIEGEL* editor Volkhard Windfuhr; date and place not given]

[Text] *SPIEGEL*: Mr President, three-fourths of your country is occupied by Syria and Israel. Your capital is in ruins and divided. Your Army is split up and Lebanese militia units are fighting each other right before your eyes. Can this destroyed Lebanon ever become a normal unified state?

Al-Jumayyil: I admit that our territory is divided. However, the Lebanese people are not divided and our great hope lies in this fact.

SPIEGEL: Not divided? With all due respect for your hope, fighting has been going on for almost 10 years and there is shooting daily between hostile Lebanese groups. This demonstrates how torn apart your country is.

Al-Jumayyil: The Lebanese people, who have been enduring untold suffering for years, do not feel any differently. Everyone can see for himself that all Lebanese want to see their country liberated and reunited.

SPIEGEL: Then how do you explain the constant fighting among the Lebanese?

Al-Jumayyil: Whoever once believed that the armed struggle would help him reap a great profit can be compared with an adventurer who believes he has discovered a great treasure, but who then learns that he has only found gravel. Believe me, Muslims and Christians have realized that they have only harmed themselves and that they have been, and to some extent still are, tools of foreign power groups.

SPIEGEL: Even if this realization gradually prevails, how will it change the fact that your country is cut up?

Al-Jumayyil: The Lebanese know that they need each other and that they can live in peace only if there is no foreign interference. Perhaps that sounds very theoretical, but it is the truth. The fact that this truth is not so evident as I would wish it could be is the result of a number of unpleasant facts — we are an occupied country.

In addition, non-Lebanese interest groups are struggling at the expense of and on the territory of Lebanon. This is how the country lost its sovereignty and fell apart. Still, the free democratic world is ignoring the violation of human rights that is involved. The world public pities Lebanon, but we need not only sympathy, we need active help.

SPIEGEL: Would foreign interference ever have reached the extent it has if the Lebanese had not been prepared to cooperate?

Al-Jumayyil: Naturally, we cannot blame everything on others. However, without foreign machinations we would have been spared much suffering. We, including the leaders of the country, have certainly made many mistakes. However, the 100,000 victims of the fighting over the past 10 years cannot be explained by Lebanese errors only.

SPIEGEL: You do not have your own militia and your orders are obeyed only by a portion of the Army. How do you intend to create a unified state of your deteriorated Republic?

Al-Jumayyil: We Lebanese do not accept the sad status quo any more than the Germans accept the division of their country. In addition, Lebanon's collapse did not happen all at once, but took place in several phases. Thus, the restoration of our national unity will be achieved gradually. We will regain our territory meter by meter.

SPIEGEL: With an Army that is falling apart into numerous factions?

Al-Jumayyil: Our Army is a reflection of the condition of the people; it has been exposed to strong pressure from various groups. However, it must be stated that no Lebanese soldier has ever fired at another Lebanese soldier. The Army leadership is as united as ever. For example, on board the helicopter that crashed recently in the Syrian controlled north were Muslim, Christian, and Druze officers — men with the same national goals.

SPIEGEL: But they are no longer alive, and Walid Junblatt, your dangerous political opponent, is even accusing the Christians of having planned the helicopter accident to eliminate a Druze passenger, the chief of the general staff, Nadim Hakim.

Al-Jumayyil: Unfortunately, there are politicians in this country who are not afraid to use such miserable tactics and who do not even have respect for the dead. The people are fed up with these cheap maneuvers.

However, an investigation committee made up of members of all religious groups has clearly determined that the crash was a tragic accident.

SPIEGEL: The Army not only failed to prevent the partition of Beirut, it did not even dare act when Shi'ite demonstrators set the Saudi Arabian Embassy on fire a few days ago.

Al-Jumayyil: Let us be honest. In some areas, political parties are preventing the legal state power from acting against such chaotic actions.

SPIEGEL: And you say that among themselves the Lebanese no longer have differing feelings? The militia and segments of the Army have certainly not created the impression at all that they are standing with noble confidence in the state above the low claims for power by various power groups in the country.

Al-Jumayyil: I continue to maintain that the silent majority of the people is fed up with war. At the moment, we are dealing mainly with struggles among different religious trends within the same religion, something that can be clearly recognized in Baalbek and Tripoli. If this senseless fighting continues much longer, it will amount to national suicide.

SPIEGEL: The Lebanese model seems to have failed. The Christian-Muslim government system and administrative structure agreed on in 1943 has turned out to be useless because either the Christians or the Muslims feel discriminated against.

Al-Jumayyil: The fault does not lie with the National Charter of 1943. The fault lies, rather, in its interpretation and implementation. The setup that showed itself later on to have shortcomings was not born that way in 1943. It was not so bad at all because it was directed at nothing other than peaceful coexistence among different groups of people.

SPIEGEL: The mere fact that many militia units exist on Lebanese territory has long since caused the division of the country and its capital.

Al-Jumayyil: From whom did Fadi Afram, Walid Junblatt, and Nabih Birri inherit their weapons? Certainly not from the Lebanese Army.

SPIEGEL: The fact that Israel and Syria, and earlier also the Palestinians, supplied those militia units close to them in Lebanon with weapons and money shows that the head of state must achieve successes on all political fronts simultaneously. Do you think you can do that?

Al-Jumayyil: The militia units committed most of their crimes without the knowledge of the political leaders at the time. Minorities are responsible for the violations. I ask: Are the political powers able to keep the militia units sufficiently under control?

SPIEGEL: This is what we are asking you. However, it seems to us that they cannot. How do you reconcile holding the office of state president with the fact that you are the son of Pierre al-Jumayyil, the founder of the Christian Phalangist Party, in which you still perform important functions?

Al-Jumayyil: I am a Christian and a Phalangist, but most of all president of all Lebanese, just as Mitterrand, who despite his Socialist Party position, is president of all the French, and just as Republican Ronald Reagan is President of all Americans.

SPIEGEL: The United Christian militia units seem to be thinking differently. They openly contradict Christian President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Al-Jumayyil: Maybe I can cite an example from the world war. In the areas occupied by the Germans at the time, there were people who adapted themselves and cooperated with the occupiers. We also suffer from this phenomenon in Lebanon. The situation in southern Lebanon...

SPIEGEL: ...where a pro-Israel militia in cooperation with the Israeli Army is keeping the majority of the people under control...

Al-Jumayyil: ...demonstrates what I mean.

SPIEGEL: Right after assuming office 2 years ago, you wanted to solve these problems with the help of the United States. Why did you bet 100 percent on the United States?

Al-Jumayyil: At no time did I place 100 percent of my bets on one side. I visited a number of countries, the United States even twice, and asked all of them for support.

SPIEGEL: The Americans sent warships and their Marines. The French, Italians, and British also sent soldiers and ships. They have since withdrawn without having accomplished anything. The fiasco of the multinational force proved that your calculations were wrong...

Al-Jumayyil: Do not forget that I took over the heritage of my predecessor, President Elias Sarkis. The mission of U.S. mediator Philip Habib, which formed the basis for the Americans' later involvement, had begun under Sarkis. I myself am in no way a man who devotes himself absolutely to one side.

SPIEGEL: The Syrians, with whom you are now dealing, will note that with interest.

Al-Jumayyil: I trust Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad with whom I have close personal relations.

SPIEGEL: Can Syria achieve what the United States and Israel could not, namely, peace in Lebanon?

Al-Jumayyil: I am convinced that Al-Asad will help Lebanon reestablish peace and order.

SPIEGEL: It is possible that Lebanon can serve Syria's security needs and that it may expect a certian degree of support from Syria in return, but how do you intend to solve the security problem caused by the Israelis, who still occupy the entire south and have cut it off from the rest of Lebanon?

Al-Jumayyil: It is safe to say that the Israelis will keep their troops in the country and prevent the return of state organs or the Army. However, I expressly state: We are prepared to conclude an agreement on security along the Israeli-Lebanese border and to implement the appropriate measures.

In abrogating the Lebanese-Israeli treaty of 17 May 1983, we actually declared our readiness to replace the treaty system with security measures that would prevent the entrance of antipeace elements into southern Lebanon. Israel missed a historical chance then.

SPIEGEL: Why? After all it was not Israel, but Lebanon that declared the agreement null and void.

Al-Jumayyil: Israel had raised conditions that were unrealizable.

SPIEGEL: Which conditions?

Al-Jumayyil: I do not want to go into detail here. I will be content to state that Israel missed the historical chance to come closer to implementing genuine peace. It is a pity because the Arab countries were not against such an agreement.

Unfortunately, the political and strategic goals then were overshadowed by egoistic considerations. If at that time Israel had

been willing to undertake security arrangements, it would have accomplished a great historic deed.

SPIEGEL: It has been said that Syria, not Israel, prevented this great deed because it did not want to be excluded from Lebanon and that it wanted to maintain a means of pressure against Israel. Who actually can guarantee that Lebanese-Israeli agreements will be respected by Damascus in the future?

Al-Jumayyil: During my recent meetings with President al-Asad, we agreed to prevent elements that endanger peace from entering into southern Lebanon. Syria has nothing against a security agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

SPIEGEL: The PLO obviously views things differently. Aside from the fact that Palestinian guerrillas are again in north and east Lebanon and in the Shuf mountains, Palestinian spokesmen still quote the 1969 Cairo agreement that permits the Palestinian resistance fighters to move freely in a strip close to the border and to attack Israeli settlements from there.

Al-Jumayyil: The Cairo agreement died years ago. However, I admit that to handle all these problems we need help from all sides.

SPIEGEL: Also from the FRG?

Al-Jumayyil: Unfortunatelly, I am convinced that many states, above all the FRG, help Lebanon too little, although the Germans, just as we, have experienced for themselves what destruction and reconstruction mean.

SPIEGEL: What could the FRG do concretely for Lebanon?

Al-Jumayyil: Germany's political weight, and its political and diplomatic relations in the world and in the Arab region are important. We would welcome political support from Bonn just as we would far-reaching multidimensional assistance in all fields. After all, I am happy that the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Goethe Institute, and German Ambassador Eitel are actively promoting German-Lebanese cooperation, which is so important particularly now.

SPIEGEL: Why do you attribute so much importance to the Germans? Do you have a personal relationship with today's Germany?

Al-Jumayyil: Yes. I was in Germany as early as 1960 at the invitation of the Christian Democratic Union and I was so impressed by the party work that I set up the research center of the Kataib (Phalangist) Party following the German pattern and called it the "House of the Future." In addition, I was a student for a few months in West Berlin, where I worked in a factory, and where I learned to admire the Germans' constructive will and their organizational talent.

Even before that my attention was drawn to German women in Lebanon. In contrast to other foreign women who had married Lebanese husbands, the German wives learned to speak our Lebanese dialect after only a short while. I could never forget that.

SPIEGEL: You still have 4 years to go in office. What do you think you can achieve during that time?

Al-Jumayyil: At least the withdrawal of all foreign troops, but also the dissolution of all militia units so as to eliminate the main obstacles so far in the way of the reestablishment of confidence among all Lebanese.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, we thank you for this conversation.

Ministerial Conclaves Resume in Bikfayya 26 Sep

NC260930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The second round of ministerial conclaves began in the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at 1030 today under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers.

Well-informed sources expect today's conclave to resolve the question of increasing the number of deputies and to set up a committee to draw up the decentralized administration plan.

At 1130, Minister Walid Junblatt left the conference hall in Bikfayya and requested Akram Shuhayyib, a Progressive Socialist Party official, to contact the party officials to allow the technical teams of the Lebanese electricity authority to carry out the necessary repairs in their areas.

Conclave Sessions Conclude

NC261708 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The second Cabinet conclave for today ended at 1830 in Bikfayya. Following the meeting Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] In light of the current discussions on the south, withdrawals, and the need to prepare the suitable atmosphere, the Council of Ministers has formed a Security Committee for the areas south of Beirut. The committee comprises Nabil Karam, Fu'ad Abu Nazir, Tawfiq Baydun, and Muhammad Baydun. The committee will meet at the race track at the invitation of Colonel Jean Nasif. The draft budget for 1985 was then submitted to the Cabinet. The Cabinet discussed the figures and principles of this budget, but was unable to complete the discussion. Thus, the Cabinet preferred to avail itself of its right to publish it in a decree; it has this right to refer it for discussion at the beginning of October. The Cabinet decided to refer it for discussion on 16 October.

For the remaining time, the Cabinet reviewed issues on the agenda and approved them. As for the conclave, the Cabinet was unable to complete the discussion. The Cabinet will again discuss these issues after my return from the United Nations.

[Unidentified reporter] Has a date been set for resuming the conclaves?

[Karami] As soon as I return from the United Nations, a date for future conclaves will be set.

[Reporter] What is your personal assessment following the two stages of the ministerial conclaves? Are you satisfied with what you have reached; namely, this minimum?

[Karami] I am satisfied in terms of the general discussions which were allotted ample time. This made all of us realize what is required and what suits the supreme national interests. Therefore, in future conclaves there will be no long discussions of these issues. We will spend the time to find solutions and make decisions.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] comment on the restoration of Jordanian-Egyptian relations?

[Karami] I have no comment on this issue. [end recording]

Al-Huss Acting Premier During Karami Absence

NC261822 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Council of Ministers issued a decree today entrusting Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and national education, with discharging the duties of Prime Minister Rashid Karami during Karami's visit to the United Nations. Minister of National Defense 'Adil 'Usayran has been entrusted with the tasks of the Ministries of Justice and Water and Electrical Resources and the South Affairs for Minister Nabih Birri, who will accompany Karami. The minister of posts and health has been entrusted with the duties of the Ministries of Finance and Housing during [former] President Camille Sham'un's stay in [words indistinct].

Chamber of Deputies Increases Number to 122

NC261129 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Cabinet conclave ended at 1300. Prime Minister Rashid Karami declined to make any statement.

It was learned that the Cabinet decided that the new Chamber of Deputies will have 122 deputies.

The Cabinet also decided to set up an emergency committee for the south, which includes Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, for the Lebanese Forces and the Phalangists; Tawfiq Barakat, for the Progressive Socialist Party; Muhammad Baydun, for the Amal Movement; and Nabil Karam, for the Liberal Party. The committee's mission will be to control the security situation from southern Beirut to the south of Lebanon.

Franjiyah Assails Phalangist Role 27 Sep

NC270543 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] In an exclusive interview granted to the Voice of the Mountain correspondent in the north, former President Sulayman Franjiyah replied to a question about the Phalangist Party's policies by saying: This gang of dwarfs should return to its normal size. It does not have the right to act as if it were the only representative of the Lebanese Christian community. Franjiyah added: Those agents who see themselves as guardians of the Christian community are the very ones who betrayed this community and perpetrated the worst massacres.

Explosion in Al-Dawrah Causes Material Damage

NC261633 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1605 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] A security source said an explosive device went off under a brown [words indistinct] vehicle, plate number 306866, near the amusement park in the Al-Dawrah area. The explosion caused material damage to vehicles parked in the area.

Phalangists Reportedly Responsible

NC261933 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] A huge explosion rocked the Al-Dawrah area near the amusement park at 1830 resulting in casualties among the Phalangist ranks. The Phalangist forces are still encircling the area.

Initial reports on the explosion indicate that a car owned by [name indistinct], professor at the American University of Beirut, was driven by the professor's sons from West Beirut to the Al-Dawrah area to meet their friends there. When they reached the area, they parked it near [word indistinct] and entered the amusement park with their friends.

The Phalangist forces planted explosives in the car, to be detonated in the western area. The professor, as is known, lives near Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri's residence.

Due to a technical error which was not discovered by the Phalangist sappers, the car exploded there.

FRG Embassy Reportedly Receives Threats

NC261708 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Diplomatic information revealed that the FRG Embassy and some West German interests in Beirut have received threats [words indistinct].

Security Intensified Around Western Embassies

NC271124 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Internal Security Forces and the Army Command today intensified patrols in the vicinities of some Western embassies in West Beirut after these embassies received threats of attacks during 'Ashura'.

Tension Prevails in Mountain Areas 26 S[illegible]
NC261912 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mount[illegible] Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tension prevails on traditional combat lines in the mountain after Progressive Socialist Party positions in 'Aytat and Kayfun were subjected to rocket and artillery fire between 2030 and 2045. The Army positions in Qal'at al-Hisn and Suq al-Gharb directed automatic and artillery fire at Baysur and Kayfun. The area of Shimlan came under 120-mm caliber shelling.

VOL Reports on Clashes
NC270546 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Clashes broke out with artillery and rocket fire in the 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb area last night. Three cease-fire agreements were announced, during which the Army positions in Qal'at al-Hisn received concentrated artillery fire. The clashes stopped at 2230, after which a state of caution prevailed in the area.

VOL on Sabotage Operations in Beirut 26 Sep
NC270551 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Gunmen carried out two sabotage operations last night. The first was directed against the Hamra' Cellar restaurant, owned by Joe Anton Romanos from Jubayl, and two nearby bars in the Commodore area. The second was against Uncle Sam's restaurant at the Hamra'-al-Sana'i' junction. Our correspondent says that gunmen hurled bundles of dynamite in the first operation which took place at approximately 2145, while others broke into Uncle Sam's restaurant, destroying its contents. The Karbala' Forces [quwwat karbala'] have warned against consuming alcoholic drinks in West Beirut.

Measures Taken To Implement Tripoli Plan
NC261958 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Peace prevailed in Tripoli today following a 5-year war. The follow-up committee stemming from the Northern Coordination Committee held a meeting today to assess the situation in view of the successful implementation of the security plan, which began at 0600 yesterday. The committee adopted practical measures which 'Ashir al-Dayah, chairman of the follow-up committee, outlined. The committee in charge of implementing the security plan in Tripoli held a meeting at 1700 today at the municipal (?building). The meeting lasted until 1930. Following the meeting, 'Ashir al-Dayah made the following statement:

[Begin Al-Dayah recording] The committee met today and made the following decisions:

1. It transpired that Wednesday's implementation of the security plan was successful and the barriers were removed up to the central post. Work will be completed tomorrow [words indistinct].

2. The issue of armed check points was discussed and it was decided to remove them in accordance with the plan. Only the security forces' checkpoints will remain. The follow-up committee will act in order to ensure this.

3. In implementation of the Damascus agreement, the laws applied to the Tripoli residents will be applied to the Palestinians and the newcomers in Tripoli.

4. Regarding the carrying of arms by men accompanying officials on official duties, current identification cards will be valid until the new cards are issued by the follow-up committee.

5. The follow-up committee will be entrusted with implementing the joint committee's resolutions regarding the withdrawal of gunmen from streets. The committee will make sure the check points are removed.

6. The follow-up committee is still awaiting the deployment of the Army to take its place in implementing the security plan for the city. The acting chairman of the Northern Coordination Committee will be entrusted with holding the necessary contacts to carry out this plan. [end recording]

Gunmen Besiege Christian Township in North
NC270707 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Security reports from the north say that gunmen of the Islamic Unification Movement are besieging the Christian township of Kafr Habu and intermittently firing on it. Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army has so far not assumed the task assigned to it in Tripoli under the Damascus agreement between the Islamic Unification Movement and the 'Alawites. The Northern Coordination Committee is holding contacts for removing the barriers set up by gunmen of the two sides.

Booby-Trapped Car Reportedly Sent to South
NC261210 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Information was distributed among security authorities in the south that an American-made car bearing diplomatic plates has been booby-trapped and sent to the south to be detonated there.

National Guard Post in South Receives Gunfire
NC270612 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] A National Guard post on the Sidon eastern highway under the command of Mahmud Harri, alias the Captain, received gunfire at 2210 last night. Two members of the National Guard, Samih Dahir and Tawfiq Basyuni, were wounded. Our correspondent reports that members of the post exchanged gunfire with the attackers for 15 minutes.

Khaddam on Gulf, Libyan-Moroccan Union
PM271019 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22 Sep pp 12-13

[Patrick Seal report from Damascus: "Khaddam Tells *AL-MAJALLAH*: Syria Has Spared the Region an Explosion"]

[Excerpts] On the question of the Gulf, Tehran and Damascus hold a trump card — the threat to escalate the war. To put it more clearly, Iran wants Syria to help it convey a message to the Arab states and the international community on behalf of Tehran. The message is: "Iran has no ambitions in Iraq or the Gulf and is ready for a political settlement of the Gulf war but with a new Iraqi Government. No such settlement is possible with Saddam Husayn. It will never happen. Therefore, the Gulf's main protection against escalation of the war is Arab pressure on Saddam Husayn to step down."

That is the policy agreed upon by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iranian President Khamene'i during their recent talks in Damascus. In other words, Syria is going to tell the Gulf states: "Get rid of Saddam Husayn and the Gulf war nightmare will immediately end."

Syria maintains that its friendship with Iran has saved the Gulf. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam told me: "Syria has played an essential part in protecting the Gulf against escalation of the war. Had it not been for the Syrian role, the war would have been much worse. Syria has succeeded in creating a suitable atmosphere for dialogue between Iran and the Gulf states. Iran has assured us on several occasions that it will not extend the war to the Gulf states because it wants to improve its relations with these states. On his recent visit to Damascus the Iranian president reaffirmed this same position." What Khaddam did not openly say and what he will say to the Gulf states is that there is a political price for this protection.

Syria was upset when Iran, under pressure from the hardline fundamentalist wing, crushed the Tudeh Communist Party and expelled the Soviet diplomats. The result was that Moscow rearmed Iraq. Syria has always advised Iran not to jeopardize its relations with Moscow. Today, as Iran is more willing to accept this Syrian advice, President al-Asad will undoubtedly use his influence with Moscow in Iran's favor.

I asked 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to throw some light on this sensitive matter. Did the Iranian president ask Syria to help Iran improve its relations with Moscow and thus restrict the supply of arms to Iraq?

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam replied: You should ask the Iranians and the Soviets about that.

Seal: I am just enquiring if he asked Syria to help in this connection.

Khaddam: We would like to see good relations between Iran and the Soviet Union.

It is known that Syria and Algeria were surprised and amazed by the Libyan-Moroccan declaration of union, as were many other countries. I asked Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam about that.

Khaddam: First of all, there is no union between Libya and Morocco. There is an alliance or an agreement which is open to all Arab and African states. It is far too early to comment on that.

Seal: You say that the union is open to others. Do you intend to join it?

Khaddam: No we have no intention of doing that but I advise not to pay too much attention to this matter in the coming few months. In the light of what happens in this coming period we will decide whether the union is positive or negative. For example, if Colonel al-Qadhdhafi succeeds in changing the Moroccan mentality and views on the Arab-Israeli conflict and other issues, then we will consider the union to be a positive step, but if no success is achieved then Al-Qadhdhafi himself will realize that it was a negative step. That is why I say we need time to judge it clearly.

Seal: But what would happen if the opposite occurred and King Hassan managed to change Col al-Qadhdhafi's views and ideas?

Khaddam: That will never happen. Col al-Qadhdhafi's policy is clear and firm and we are confident that it will not change at all. King Hassan is the candidate for change of views.

Seal: The Algerians see the union as a real threat to them in that the Sahara may be given to Morocco.

Khaddam: The Libyans have told us that they are interested in maintaining good relations with Algeria. On the question of the Sahara, we do not, and I stress this point, expect any change in Libya's policy toward this matter.

It is clear to most observers that Libya and Morocco concluded their union to serve mutual objectives. Morocco's main aim is to end the back-breaking Saharan war and the best way to do it is to stop Libyan aid for the Polisario. That is what King Hassan expects to get out of the union.

Col Al-Qadhdhafi, who is now facing an increasing threat posed by his political opponents abroad, does not want to see Morocco acting as a base for Libyan opposition. King Hassan II also wants to get rid of the Moroccan opposition in Libya. (Reliable sources have told me that the two leaders even exchanged the names and addresses of their enemies.)

MONDAY MORNING Interviews Information Minister
NC260847 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 24-30 Sep 84 pp 46-49

[Interview with Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh by unidentified *MONDAY MORNING* correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] How is the health of President Hafiz al-Asad?

[Rajjuh] President al-Asad is in excellent health. He is exercising all his duties and is carrying a very heavy workload, as everybody knows. Friends can rest at ease, and enemies can choke to death in anger. The Syrians are a very fortunate people, and we are very happy with our lot. Questions about the health of President al-Asad are things of the past, especially since his recent gruelling trips to Libya and Algeria.

[Correspondent] Much has been said in recent days about the possibility of renewed fighting in Lebanon and a dialogue between the combatants if the politicians fail. What do you think?

[Rajjuh] I think all such talk is premature. If fighting is an end in itself, then meetings, dialogue, and conclaves are all needless and meaningless. I am convinced that the brethren in Lebanon are working sincerely to avoid any repetition of the terrible past and to spare the country bloodshed and destruction.

[Correspondent] Are there plans for an impending change in the Syrian Government, or does that await a meeting of the Ba'th regional conference?

[Rajjuh] This is not the subject of discussion at present.

[Correspondent] When will the regional conference be held?

[Rajjuh] No specific date has been set so far.

[Correspondent] What is the state of Syrian-Soviet relations?

[Rajjuh] Relations between Syria and the Soviet Union are moving at a very good pace; in fact, they are excellent. Both the Syrian and Soviet leaderships are quite satisfied with these relations, which are not clouded by any problems.

[Correspondent] Is it true that Syria is the Soviet bastion in the area?

[Rajjuh] Our friendship with the Soviet Union is not the product of a day, a month, or a year. It is a strong and historic relationship which has forged a strong frendship between the peoples of both countries. The Soviet Union has adopted an honorable and supportive position toward our just, destiny causes, and this has played a prominent part in strengthening the ties of Syrian-Soviet friendship. Our relationship is based on friendship, mutual respect, and a joint position on the struggle against imperialism and for the liberation of people.

[Correspondent] What about the Iraqi-Iranian war? What do you expect its outcome to be?

[Rajjuh] Those who start fires to harm others will inevitably get burnt. The head of the fascist Iraqi regime started the fire, and this fire will ultimately burn him. When he is burnt, the war will end, and it is up to our great Iraqi Arab people to punish him.

[Correspondent] Is the Deterrent Force in Lebanon to carry our security duties?

[Rajjuh] The Deterrent Force is in Lebanon and it is exercising its duties. The force has played an honorable and important role in both resisting Israeli aggression and in helping to stop fighting among the Lebanese brethren in the past.

[Correspondent] Could this role be extended to embrace Beirut?

[Rajjuh] This subject is not under discussion at present.

[Correspondent] How long will the Syrian role continue in Lebanon? Will this role go on until Lebanon has fully recovered its vitality?

[Rajjuh] Yes, this role will continue until Lebanon is back on its feet.

[Correspondent] What do you think of the new government in Israel?

[Rajjuh] What can I think? Does such a question need any answer? They all want to take over this region, to seize our land, people, and heritage. There is no difference between one Israeli and another. Peres and Shamir are equally evil, there is no distinction. The ideological and strategic orientation of Israel has been publicly exposed and is well known. There is no real difference between the people who take office in Israel. They are all equally, aggressors, racists, and usurpers, and we feel sorry for those in the Arab ranks who are counting on any real change. Those people are counting on the impossible. The aggressive nature of Israel has been well exposed and uncovered.

[Correspondent] Do you envisage some new deal, similar to the Camp David agreement, between Jordan and Israel, as indicated by some news media?

[Rajjuh] Any deal of that king would go against the dignity of the Arab people and against the national Arab interests. Those who might participate in such shady deals are well known on the Arab scene, especially on the Palestinian level. We sincerely hope that they will not besmirch the history of the Arab nation with a new blot of shame.

[Correspondent] Is the proposed Libyan-Moroccan union a bilateral plan, or is it a wider unity plan?

[Rajjuh] According to what has been published so far, it is a bilateral arrangement.

[Correspondent] Why are you against a meeting of the Palestinian National Council?

[Rajjuh] We are not against such a meeting.

[Correspondent] Haven't you been trying to prevent it from meeting?

[Rajjuh] We are not trying to prevent it from holding a meeting. The Palestine National Council and its meetings are an internal Palestinian affair all the way, and we simply do not interfere. However, those who are now issuing calls for the convening of a council meeting are actually trying to call for the division of the

Palestine Liberation Organization. All that is said about our position contrary to that is malicious rumor, circulated by hostile news media.

[Correspondent] What about Yasir 'Arafat?

[Rajjuh] One would prefer not to discuss personalities, but I will simply refer to what President al-Asad said about Yasir 'Arafat during an interview with the chief editor of *LE MONDE*.

[Correspondent] Could you recall some of what was said?

[Rajjuh] He said that Yasir 'Arafat had wronged the Palestinian cause and Syria. Anyhow, his problems are with his colleagues in the PLO and in Fatah, rather than with Syria. Syria is the stamping grounds and the launching pad for the Palestinian resistance, and the Palestinian resistance will always be united in Syria, so there is no fear of a future division within the real resistance, because we will continue to support the resistance in all ways. It is a different story for the resistance which is far from Palestine. That is something else. Actually, you can call that anything but resistance. Those who want to resist must be nearby; they must be near the land. How can the Palestinian resistance function hundreds of kilometers from Palestine?

[Correspondent] In other words, you are not opposed to the meeting of the Palestinian National Council?

[Rajjuh] We were speaking about Yasir 'Arafat. Let us go on. We have no desire to impose any specific policy on Yasir 'Arafat. That is his business and the business of the Palestinian organizations. We do not impose any specific formulas on the Palestinian scene. We assure them that this is their business, but we do support those whom we regard as the embodiment of the Palestinian struggle.

[Correspondent] What is the state of your relations with President Amin al-Jumayyil?

[Rajjuh] Our relations with President Amin al-Jumayyil are good, characterized by honesty and understanding, as all can see. We encourage and support every nationalist trend that strengthens Lebanon's territorial integrity and the unity of its people, and which enhances its genuine Arab identity.

[Correspondent] What is the index of understanding and cooperation with President Husni Mubarak?

[Rajjuh] The cancellation of the Camp David accords.

[Correspondent] How could that be accomplished?

[Rajjuh] The brethren in Egypt are well aware of what action to take.

[Correspondent] What designs does Syria have in Lebanon, in view of all that is said about this subject?

[Rajjuh] We have one design, only one, namely, that Lebanon be united, independent, liberated from Israeli occupation and linked with the Arab world, of which it is an indivisible unit.

[Correspondent] When is the next Arab summit scheduled to meet, and will it be held on schedule?

[Rajjuh] A preparatory meeting is to be held by the Arab foreign ministers, and they will tackle all the pending Arab issues. We must wait for the results of that meeting before being able to comment on the summit meeting.

[Correspondent] Do you expect any outbreak of hostilities in the area to be sparked off by Israel?

[Rajjuh] The aggressive nature of Israel places the region in a state of constant tension. Consequently, we always expect something to happen, and as such, we are also ready for all the evil eventualities that could arise.

[Correspondent] How will south Lebanon be liberated?

[Rajjuh] South Lebanon will be liberated through support for the national resistance, and the restoration of an effective Lebanese state which is capable of taking the necessary measures to liberate the land and to deprive the Israeli invader of any gains that he is seeking to secure as a result of usurpation and occupation.

[Correspondent] How true are reports of new moves by the Moslem Brotherhood?

[Rajjuh] We have wiped out all nests of conspiracy in Syria. Any attempt to set up new nests of conspirators of any kind will be appropriately crushed.

[Correspondent] Finally, if a referendum were to be held in Syria on the popularity of the regime and of President al-Asad, what would the result be?

[Rajjuh] Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, who has succeeded in building a military, economically, and politically strong and modern state, does not depend on voting rates and percentages. When the people of Syria see how their leader has skillfully and intelligently confronted the plots and schemes of the Americans, the Zionists, and the reactionaries, they do not need to have a referendum to express their confidence. In Syria, we feel that under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad we can reach the stars because of the glorious accomplishments realized since he came to power. As a regime, we seek guidance from the organized will of our masses, without which we could not have been able to confront the aggression of the Israelis, the Americans, and the reactionaries. A nation which bears the heavy burdens we bear and is subject to all the forms of pressure that we are subjected to, can only go from one success to another, from one victory to another, if the masses are solidly behind their leader, thus enabling him to keep on being a victorious, inspiring and pioneering leader under all conditions, no matter what methods of attack are mounted.

IRNA: Al-Shar' Meets With Iran's Lavasani

LD231821 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 23, IRNA — Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, the political director general of Arab and African countries affairs of the Iranian Foreign Ministry met and conferred with the Syrian foreign minister, Faruq al-Shar' in Damascus Sunday morning. In this meeting issues of mutual interests as well as the results of the recent official visit of President Khaneme'i to Syria and the repercussions of his trip in the region were discussed. Also issues pertaining to the fight against the Zionist enemy were discussed and views exchanged.

The Syrian foreign minister lauded the important and historical trip of the Iranian president, and pointed out that his trip was a significant development among regional political circles and experts. Both parties confirmed the necessity of following up this important trip as well as exploiting it in the interest of the Islamic and oppressed countries of the world in their fight against global imperialism and Zionism.

Al-Asad Telephones Al-Qadhdhafi, Bendjedid

JN271039 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, spoke on the telephone yesterday. They discussed the Arab situation, its latest developments, and matters of mutual concern.

President al-Asad also telephoned Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. They talked about developments in the Arab arena and matters of mutual concern.

Damascus on Egyptian-Jordanian Relations

JN261323 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1135 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Jordanian regime has decided to restore relations with the Egyptian regime. The Jordanian regime adopted this decision unilaterally, while severing relations with the Egyptian regime following the signing the Camp David accords with Israel and the United States was a unanimous Arab decision adopted by the ninth Arab summit in Baghdad. Jordan agreed and committed itself to it. This is why the Jordanian regime's step is a violation of the Arab summit resolutions on which it had agreed and a deviation from the Arab consensus that denounced the Camp David accords and the capitulatory course of Al-Sadat's regime.

The Arab summit resolution severing relations with the Egyptian regime was not an ordinary one but a decision related to the Arab nation's pan-Arab cause and its concern about pan-Arab commitment to the Palestine question and to refusing to capitulate to Israel and imperialism. Deviation from this resolution while the Egyptian regime continues to abide by the Camp David accords is not an ordinary action or an affair that any Arab side has the right to deal with unilaterally if that side is actually committed to the pan-Arab cause and the Arab summit resolutions. The pan-Arab cause belongs to all Arabs; no one has the right to deal with it unilaterally without expecting internal and Arab reactions, and without shouldering the responsibility for all the consequences of this decision.

He who absolves himself from a binding Arab resolution aimed at preventing capitulation and relinquishment of the Palestine question cannot take his step without paving the way for deviating from the pan-Arab cause and for announcing his readiness to hold contacts with the Arab nation's enemies and to agree on a settlement similar to the Camp David accords or an extension of them. The Jordanian regime can convince no one that it adopted this decision to encourage the Egyptian regime to further approach the Arabs and to release itself from Camp David's chains.

The Egyptian regime, through most of its officials, voiced its commitment to the Camp David accords and the capitulatory peace treaty with Israel. The symbols of the present Egyptian regime can find no means to defend their commitment to the Camp David accords other than saying that the two accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty chained Egypt and made it a captive of the United States and Israel. Any retraction of accords would mean that Israel would reoccupy Sinai and the Egyptian military and the economic situation would be disrupted.

Encouraging the Egyptian regime to abandon its subservience to the United States and capitulation to Israel cannot be achieved through joining it inside the Camp David cage but through releasing the Egyptian regime from the Camp David jail. All Arabs recognize Egypt's importance and its great role in the Arab world.

However, Camp David is what detached Egypt from Arab ranks, harmed its regional and international role, and isolated it from its natural environment. For Egypt to restore its position and role, it must dispose of the factor that deprived it of its role and position and isolated it from the Arab liberation environoment and that of the Nonaligned Movement. It seems that the Jordanian ruler, who attempted during past months to pretend that he is hostile to the U.S. policy that capitulated to Israel in the Middle East, was carrying out a process of delusion to resume implementation of the plan drawn up for him and Yasir 'Arafat to join the Camp David march through Reagan's initiative in 1982.

It seems that the Jordanian regime, which sought, and seeks, to obtain the card of Palestinian representation from representatives of the Palestinain Arab people and the Palestinian revolution to play it before the United States and Israel on the overt negotiating table following agreements that were signed secretly, has found that it is the proper time, after Peres took power in Israel and as the U.S. presidential election approaches, to expose his cards and pave the way for joining the march of capitulation to the United States and Israel.

Stabbing the Arabs is not new for the Jordanian regime, because it is used to this. Circumstances have helped the Jordanian ruler on many occasions escape paying the bill and assuming responsibility, but can he always succeed?

Egypt-Jordan Relations Assailed

JN261853 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Unscheduled commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: A great deal has been said about the Jordanian regime's role in the peace processes that were planned by the Camp David sides and whose details were drawn up by U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the basis of achieving Israel's short-term and long-term interests. This talk of the Jordanian regime's role was believed and supported by some, and denounced and refuted by others as a result of the Jordanian regime's maneuvers which attempted to deceive Palestinian public opinion in particular, and the Arab public opinion in general, and to mislead public opinion on the soundness of the regime's political course and principles.

At 2100 yesterday evening, the Jordanian regime transformed all the talk into action by announcing the restoration of diplomatic and political relations with the Egyptian regime, a party to the Camp David agreements. We will not say a great deal about this decision. Our people in Jordan, Palestine, Syria , and throughout the great Arab homeland know how the Jordanian regime prepared for this move, why it embarked on it, and what the regime's next moves are.

Following the formation fo the new Zionist government, its leader Shim'on Peres and other Zionist officials announced that a great number of issues related to the Palestinians and the occupied Arab territories depends on the Jordanian regime's stand, or rather on the expected alliance with the Camp David bandwagon. Following Yasir 'Arafat's deviation from the Palestinian revolution's course and after he took refuge with the Jordanian regime and entered into negotiations with it, negotiations supported by the Egyptian regime, it was said that the Jordanian regime would inevitably embark on a move to achieve the following: First, breathe life into the Camp David agreements; second, fulfill U.S. President Reagan's wish as called for in his recent speech of expanding Camp David; third, sit down openly at a common table with the Zionist terrorists, the Egyptian regime, 'Arafat, and the United States so that everyone would emerge with the burdens of a Zionist-Jordanian peace agreement, which would fetter our Arab people in Jordan, aim at finally liquidating the Palestinian issue, and impose a U.S. settlement in the region. This would also give the Zionsit enemy a free hand to achieve its Torah dreams of aggression and expansion at the expense of Arab land and rights.

The Jordanian regime's decison to restore relations with the Egyptian regime is an indication of the course the Jordanian regime has decided to pursue. The question being strongly asked is: Will the Jordanian regime be able to complete this course to the end? It might find some assistance from this capitulationist side or that deviant side or even from a third side that is hostile to the Arabs and their causes. However, this assistance will not achieve anything in the face of the will of our Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and the will of our Arab masses and their liberation forces, who will not remain silent over those who wish to deal treacherous blows to them.

AL-BA'TH on Decision's Price

JN270812 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 27 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Jordanian Regime Falls Into the Abyss of the U.S. Settlement," *AL-BA'TH* says that the open Jordanian regime's move shows that this regime has begun the phase of implementing U.S.-Israeli solutions for the region, and has started, in coordination with the Egyptian regime and 'Arafat, concluding the new deal aimed at completely liquidating the Palestinian caused under the pretext of negotiating with Peres on the basis of the Israeli concept of autonomy for the inhabitants and not the territory. This will take place with the support of the Egyptian regime, which is taking part in the deal in exchange for breaking its isolation from the Arab countries.

AL-BA'TH adds: Regardless of the Jordanian regime's pretexts for this step, this regime will not be able to hide its implications. The last mask has fallen from its face because its announcement of restoring relations means restoring them with Camp David and not with Egypt. There is a great difference between an Arab Egypt that assumes a leading role in the Arab world and an Egypt that is a prisoner of Camp David and a pawn in the Israeli and U.S. hands. This step is not intended to extricate Egypt from Camp David, as they claim, but to add Jordan, one way or another, to the Camp David march.

Naturally, no Arab objects to Egypt's return without the Camp David agreements. However, all the Arabs must object to restoring Camp David to the Arab fold by proxy. The paper points out that the decision to sever relations with the Egyptian regime, shackled by the Camp David chains, was a unanimous Arab decision. No Arab country should unilaterally dissociate itself from this decision because this is not a regional issue but a pan-Arab one. And since this decision was made within a pan-Arab framework, reconsidering it cannot be allowed except within a pan-Arab framework. No sincere Arab agrees that Jordan should dissociate itself from its pan-Arab commitments.

If the Jordanian rulers think that through this step they can open the door for Peres and Reagan, they must know that opening this door will close the door between them and the Arab nation's masses, which will make the appropriate decision concerning those who have been used to stabbing the pan-Arab cause in the back.

Concluding its comment, the paper says: In any case, the responsibility that arises from the Jordanian regime's decision under the present circumstances is a great one. The Amman rulers should expect to pay a very heavy price for their move.

TISHRIN on Camp David

JN271000 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus, 27 Sep (SANA) — In its comment today, *TISHRIN* says that when Syria affirms that it is studying means of confronting the new situation that has emerged following the Jordanian regime's decision to restore relations with Egypt, it

means that it will take effective measures to stop the fresh momentum of the Camp David parties. *TISHRIN* adds that as Syria in the past was able to foil the plans aimed at pushing new Arab parties toward the negotiating table, it will succeed this time also, in curbing the plotters and will not allow anyone to bargain over the Palestinian people's just cause.

TISHRIN concludes: The forthcoming days will witness frenzied activity among the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary forces whose direct goal is to wipe out the Palestine question. The agents will find that Syria is capable, not only of foiling the conspiracy, but also of deterring its perpetrators if necessary.

Al-Shar', PRC Counterpart Meet in New York

JN261856 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] At 1000 today, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with his PRC counterpart at the United Nations building in New York. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote these relations. They reviewed the international situation in general and the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon in particular.

The PRC minister stressed his country's firm support for liberating all the occupied Arab territories and safeguarding the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He also affirmed that stability in Lebanon can be achieved through the Israeli forces' unconditional withdrawal from the Lebanese territories. He said that international pressure must be exerted on Israel and the United States to achieve this objective.

At the end of the meeting, the PRC minister conveyed the greetings and appreciation of the PRC leadership for President Hafiz al-Asad.

Al-Shar' Meets FRG's Genscher

JN261952 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1945 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met here today with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. The meeting was attended by Diya' Allah al-Fattal, Syria's permanent UN representative. The discussions dealt with the international situation, current developments in the Middle East, and bilateral relations.

Peres Grants New Year Interviews to Dailies

THE JERUSALEM POST

TA261023 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Sep 84 pp 5, 6

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on the occasion of the Jewish New Year by Mark Segal at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem "in the 2d week of his premiership"]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is hopeful that the war in Lebanon will be over during the coming year and that Israel's soldiers will finally be able to come home. He spoke of the defence minister being currently engaged in examining the possibilities of the redeployment of the IDF in Lebanon, and mentioned diplomatic contacts proceeding with Syria via the United States.

He expressed this expectation in the course of a Rosh Hashana eve interview with *THE JERUSALEM POST* at his office in the capital's Ben-Gurion Qirya [government office area].

Asked about the significance of his first working visit to Washington as premier, Peres explained that it would first of all afford him and the U.S. Administration the opportunity to clarify a series of issues of common interest arising from the special relationship that had developed between the two countries over the years. Their broad range of mutual interest included the situation in Lebanon; international terrorism, particularly in the light of recent events in Beirut; the Gulf war; and how best to ensure peace in the Red Sea. As regards the latter, certain ideas had already crystallized. Another issue would be the prospects of talks with the Jordanians and inhabitants of the territories.

The premier trusted that his visit to Washington would advance the fashioning of the future framework of relations between Israel and the U.S., especially in the light of the emergence of the new national unity government here.

He was asked to comment on Vice-Premier Yitzhaq Shamir's total rejection of the idea of peace negotiations with Jordan based on territorial compromise, in a recent interview with this newspaper. Peres explained that the national unity government's basic guidelines included a commitment to consider all Jordanian proposals. However, should that involve reaching a territorial decision, "Then either the government will break up or the two main factions will reach an agreement." Furthermore, should Jordan indeed agree to enter peace negotiations, they would be of an "open-ended" nature.

Had there been any encouraging signs from Jordan?

The prime minister regretted that no such indications had been forthcoming. Within the month, King Husayn would be flying to Moscow, "against my advice," he added with a grin. He emphasized how important it was "that Israel put itself on the record with an unceasing initiative for peace."

What were his expectations of progress on the Lebanon issue as the result of the visit to the area of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Murphy.

"We are essentially in the phase of clarifications. After all Israel does not oppose there being peace in Damascus and Beirut as well as in Galilee. It would be best if we could achieve overall peace in both Damascus and Galilee. But we are more interested in securing peace for Galilee."

It was here that the premier mentioned that Defence Minister Rabin was currently engaged in examining the possibilities for the redeployment of the IDF in Lebanon and considering the various alternatives available, noting that it was obvious that they hinged on political developments.

He remarked sagely, "From our past experience with the Syrians, we have found that it's possible to reach an agreement with them without negotiations, just as with the Lebanese one can negotiate but reach no agreement in the end."

As to the prospects of reviving relations with Egypt, Premier Peres confirmed that the Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni had called on him with a message from President Husni Mubarak. For Egypt, the main obstacles to defrosting relations were Lebanon and the Tabah dispute. He pointed out that the Egyptians were fully aware of the Israel Government's serious intentions to end the Lebanon episode. As far as Tabah was concerned, Peres said he was studying the matter. He saw no need for arbitration, adding with a laugh, "Maybe we could apply the principle of territorial compromise to the 1,200 square metres involved in the dispute."

The premier did not accept the notion that the economic measures taken so far had created a mood of disappointment and a sense of missed opportunity. He declared vehemently: "This government came into being because the economy is so dangerously over-heated. Some economists see the shape of the flames and seek the architect. We are reaching for pails of water. The steps we have taken do not yet amount to a set plan.... We're resolved to cut one billion dollars from the budget. The previous government decided to introduce cuts, but never got beyond that stage. We're determined to implement our decisions and we won't rest a minute in pursuing these plans. Some economists talk of cutting two billion. But that's impossible. After all, can we reduce our hospitals? Or our schools? Or the number of policemen?

Peres noted that this week, the government has adopted admittedly painful measures of draining money frm the public and of reducing purchasing power at the rate of $500-$600 million. "That was an exceedingly harsh step, but it was not taken without considering the less well-off. Thus we abolished the subsidy on fuel but not on bread."

Another painful measure had been the imposition of a property tax, "but we had no choice. We have to awaken the nation to our painful economic reality."

Mentioning the discussions with the Histadrut, the prime minister noted that the economic experts had urged that the cost-of-living payments should be suspended for the coming two months, adding, "From their point of view they're right, but that's impossible."

He pointed out that the level of the price index had already been determined for the coming two months by th actions of the previous government. Here he revealed that next month's index was expected to show a 20 percent price increase.

Speaking with compassion, he declared, "We can hardly demand such a sacrifice of a man earning $250 a month, or that someone earning $500 a month should lose $100 in one go. Hence we have adopted a progressive approach also acceptable to the Histadrut, thus preserving industrial peace."

New taxation included a 10 percent surtax for one month on upper incomes and an 8 percent levy on medium-range salaries. This would be followed by a compulsory loan for three months of 7 percent on upper brackets and 5 percent on medium incomes. Peres concluded that this might not sound like too much, "but it is the first time that the Histadrut has agreed to lower wages."

As to the prospects of a package deal in four months' time, the prime minister replied, "No one in his senses thinks we can get such an agreement before the government cuts its own budget." The budget's figures were in the area of $21 billion, but in fact only $11 billion were available for the reduction programme, after debt servicing and so forth. Thus it was hoped to cut 10 percent of the budget "across the board."

The premier revealed his intention of trying to establish a joint council, on the Austrian model, on which the government employers and the Histadrut would serve. It would be a permanent forum for regular discussions about such key economic factors as taxes, interest rates, prices and wages. He trusted that all concerned would join the government in what should become a major framework for achieving national co-operation in rescuing the economy.

The next phase, would be the renewal of economic growth. He declared a giant industrial survey was already underway. Each manufacturer would be asked three questions: Can you double your production and export levels? Are you ready to build a new plant in a development town? What do you need?

He promised that immediate attention would be accorded to industrialists' requests and that the authorities would strive to get on right away with the implementation of industrial expansion.

Here he injected a personal note: "I don't have pretensions about being an economic expert, but I do have a record as a do-er." He went on to say with deep feeling: "As a people we have been living well beyond our means. In the past seven years there has been an awful waste of a great deal of money. It is my solemn hope that within a year we will manage to get the national economy back onto the rails and be able to look to a future of growth and development. Of course, I realize that we're in for criticism from the economic experts and the media, but nonetheless we will persist in our policies, because we believe we are pursuing the right course."

Asked whether, as the first prime minister in many years to get so involved in economic matters, he had evoked a positive response from his colleagues, Peres replied that the initial reaction from many quarters had been anger. However, things were now working out.

"I'm not deluding myself. One needs lots of patience and above all not to panic. After all, it is such an obvious conclusion that former governments mismanaged this major sphere.... In my view, the entire government should become the finance minister and give its fullest backing to economic measures. Otherwise, we won't succeed."

Talking of the national unity government's initial performance, Premier Peres reported:

"The ministers are behaving handsomely. Of course, it's a rather large government, and the length of each session depends on the number of participants. I do my best not to interrupt anyone in the midst of expounding an idea.... You know, many ministers are surprised at themselves and at their colleagues. They would never have believed that such harmony was possible. It's a really interesting experience. This government has a solid quality from a personal aspect. It contains many experienced men in a wide variety of fields, from a rabbi to a major-general. It has two former prime ministers, five defence ministers, three chiefs of general staff plus another two senior generals, a kibbutznik, a moshavnik and a resident of a development town. It is most representative of our society. It is a worthy company, whether one agrees with the views of each of its members or not."

He went on to register his belief that as a result of this government, Israel would enjoy a much better political image.

"We can emerge from the economic crisis and return to ourselves and to our old values. There is going to be a new style. Already, the unity government has lowered tensions and got rid of political and personal vilification... After all, it's difficult to sit with someone at the same table and to attack him at the same time. We've already shown that important discussions can be conducted in a civil manner."

And leaks from the Cabinet room?

"I don't get worked up about them. After all, I did not expect a picnic. It's too easy to leak from Cabinet meetings. You know, all these years there have been leaks from the Cabinet room, and the State of Israel has survived. I would recommend every minister to forgo headlines and maintain self-control. It will give him a measure of dignity."

Asked whether the Histadrut should emulate the broad government coalition, the Labour Party leader replied that there was a completely different situation at the General Federation of Labour.

"After all, the parties joined the coalition because they had no choice in the matter. At the Histadrut there is a massive majority of one party. For my part, I'm leaving the matter to the Histadrut leaders to decide."

The prime minister wished to use the columns of *THE JERUSALEM POST* to convey his Rosh Hashana greetings and a New Year message to the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora.

Its gist was: "To my fellow Israelis, I say we have to go through a very tough period in the coming year. But I can assure all of you that we will emerge much stronger both economically and politically. I appeal to all my fellow citizens: Don't just rely on the government. There is ample room for voluntary efforts. People can help the nation by increasing their savings efforts. They can stop buying luxury goods and above all buy made-in-Israel products. Those are things we can all do. I beseech all my fellow citizens to take stock and adopt voluntary measures, for then there will be that much less need of government action... Our economy is in a feverish condition, and it isn't enough to call the physician: The patient must help in order to ensure a cure."

Here the prime minister reiterated his pious hope that the war in Lebanon would end in the coming year "and that many young men will be able to enjoy a quieter life."

Taking the broader view, Premier Peres sees Israel entering the third phase of Zionism, a society based on higher education, science and technology. He explained: "The first phase of Zionism was the conquest of work, for we were not a working people. The second phase was conquest of the land, for we were a people without a country. And now phase three — the conquest of science."

In this new stage of the Zionist endeavour there would be ample room for expanding cooperation between Israel and the Diaspora communities. One of his priorities in the coming year would be the renewal of aliya, he said, contending that the fate of Israel depended on the number of those coming to settle in this country. He appealed to the Jews of the Diaspora: "Yes, I know you may be enjoying better material conditions and be living in greater comfort, but if you're looking for a life of drama and interest, then your place is with us. If you want to be part of a great historical enterprise, then come and join us here. After all, Israel is the sum total of the individual members of our society. We do not have much to offer in material wealth. We do not live in a friendly environment. We lack water. But we do offer an exciting involvement in the making of history."

MA'ARIV

TA261217 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Sep 84 p 14

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Ya'aqov Ha'e-yon on 25 September in the prime minister's office]

[Excerpts] [Ha'elyon] With regard to Lebanon, the area appears to have heated up rather substantially over the last few days, and there have been many casualties.

[Peres] We have been suffering casualties in Lebanon constantly. Unfortunately, there are weeks when we have more. The solution lies not in the rise or fall of the security barometer, but in our withdrawal from Lebanon. The defense minister is currently taking firm measures to consolidate a plan that will, on one hand, allow us to guarantee peace for the Galilee, and, on the other hand, really let us withdraw from Lebanon.

[Ha'elyon] Could you give us some details about the guidelines of this plan?

[Peres] As in any plan, it must have political components. I would outline it, in descriptive terms, as follows: Israel has no objection to a situation in which there will be peace for Damascus, Beirut, and the Galilee. However, our business, naturally, is peace for the Galilee, and the problem is how to unify all the various forces into one (namely, the army of southern Lebanon — Y.H.), find the proper role for UNIFIL, reach local arrangements, and decide on various means the IDF will employ in order to truly guarantee peace for the Galilee. All this can be done.

[Ha'elyon] You mentioned the army of southern Lebanon. Has it not forfeited its ability to become Israel's expeditionary force in southern Lebanon, in light of the massacre at Suhmur?

[Peres] In the final analysis, it has both the same advantages and disadvantages it had under Haddad, and no one could say at the time that Haddad was Israel's front guard. He fulfilled a significant role in southern Lebanon although, deprived of either the interest or the backing of the IDF, Haddad would not have survived. The same is true for General Lahd. He must play the same role Haddad's forces played at the time.

[Ha'elyon] Has Israel asked the United States to serve as a mediator between us and the Syrians to accelerate the evacuation of the IDF from Lebanon?

[Peres] No.

[Ha'elyon] Someone had intimated that Alternate Prime Minister Shamir has broached this idea in the United States.

[Peres] No. We are talking about local arrangements, of a localized nature, and not mediation in the sense that we will experience a shuttle trip, like Rumsfeld used to do. There is no such intention, and we do not have such a show in mind.

[Ha'elyon] When you were defense minister, in 1976, Husayn played the role of a broker between Syria and Israel on the "red line" in Lebanon. In light of your ties with Husayn and his improved relations with Al-Asad, will you ask him to do us a similar favor again?

[Peres] No. I think the problems we have with Husayn relate to Jordan. I do not believe Husayn could play a role between us and Syria.

[Ha'elyon] You have repeatedly called on Husayn to negotiate with Israel. Ostensibly it looks as though you are crying out in the wilderness.

[Peres] Do we stand to lose anything by making these appeals? It is better that we call on him to do that, than someone else does so.

[Ha'elyon] But are you hopeful that anything will come out of your calls?

[Peres] I hope that the actual call will do no harm, but only good. In politics it is always necessary to provide leeway for the unexpected. If Israelis had been asked a few months before his

visit whether Al-Sadat would actually come, they would have called this a cry in the wilderness, too. No one can say for sure that Husayn will come, but by the same token no one can say for certain that he will never come. Therefore, what has Israel got to lose when it repeatedly invites its neighbor to talk?

[Ha'elyon] Earlier you mentioned Al-Sadat and Husayn in one breath, but haven't our relations with Husayn been different from the absence of relations with Al-Sadat?

[Peres] My informal contacts with Husayn have borne fruit; although they may be less dramatic, they are no less important. In fact, there is a framework of peaceful or calm relations with him. The border is not being crossed. The Jordanians have not been allowing terrorists to penetrate into Israel; the bridges are open, there are arrangements for water and local transportation that are fairly efficient. When we signed the peace accord with Egypt, people said: The most important thing is normalization. With Jordan we enjoy a certain degree of normalization. Now it should be done formally as well, signed and sealed.

[Ha'elyon] Has Husayn become more inflexible than he used to be?

[Peres] I do not know about that. He has a more difficult range to operate in. He is under pressure by the Persian Gulf war, and one must also remember that the Arab world is in a transition from pan-Arabism to pan-Islamism, and that the wars today are more in a religious context than a national one, in the military sense. Also, he is constantly aware of the fabric of relations he has with Syria. He is a bit disappointed with the Americans. I would say, at present, his mood is that of great disappointment with everyone he comes in contact with. But the king is master of his own moods....

[Ha'elyon] So was it this disappointment that prompted him to go to Moscow?

[Peres] He was led to Moscow by the desire first of all to obtain surface-to-air missiles. The trip to Moscow could be aimed at applying a bit of pressure on the West as well, although he said that he seriously means to buy missiles. On one hand he has been attracted by the easy terms of Soviet arms proposals, but on the other hand he is also worried about what could become of those arms in a war with Syria.

[Ha'elyon] And Israel is very worried about the possibility that he would receive those missiles?

[Peres] We will be as worried regarding the ties he develops with Moscow. This could get him more deeply involved than he would like.

[Ha'elyon] You are going to the United States. What, in fact, is Israel asking of the United States?

[Peres] First of all, we want a broad discussion of U.S.-Israel relations. There is a new government in Israel. The ties between the countries are not only deep, but also very concentrated. Something happens every day — be it war against terrorism, or the Gulf war, or Lebanon, or the economic issue. The fact remains that during the election campaign there, the only one of all the heads of governments invited to the United States is the prime minister of Israel. I will, naturally, present the economic situation. I will request U.S. aid mainly in the sphere of renewing our growth. As far as halting processes — that we must do ourselves. Yet when it comes to growth, we need their help. In other words, I will not go to ask the Americans to tighten the belt, but I will definitely ask them to revitalize their momentum at a later stage.

[Ha'elyon] Do you mean another $1 billion in aid?

[Peres] I do not know whether I will insist on the sum. I will insist on the principle more than on the figures.

[Ha'elyon] And will you also discuss the strategic cooperation?

[Peres] This matter is under constant care, unless some new decision — which I cannot anticipate — is about to be made. [possible line drop in original] I do not think the matter will be raised.

[Ha'elyon] When you were in the opposition, if I remember correctly, you never supported the matter, but rather criticized it?

[Peres] We supported full cooperation, but not aimed against another superpower, (the Soviet Union — Y.H.) just as the Americans are very cautious not to have it appear as though the arrangement is aimed against the Arabs. It is simply a matter of careful wording.

[Ha'elyon] Was it worth it for Israel to have the United States undergo such an internal squabble over transferring its embassy to Jerusalem?

[Peres] Look, this is over, and like everything that belongs to the past, it becomes history.

[Ha'elyon] Is it really in the realm of history already?

[Peres] I think so. Congress recesses in early October, and I doubt that it will deal with this anymore. But if it had passed legislation, it would have been an important achievement.

[Ha'elyon] At the time you wanted to enlist the help of West German Minister Egon Bahr to achieve an understanding with the Soviet Union, and ask Franz-Josef Strauss to help establish ties with the PRC. What are your plans for relations with these two countries?

[Peres] We will take advantage of every opportunity to renew ties with those two superpowers. However, over the few days that I have been in office, believe me, I have not had a moment to get to those issues.

[Ha'elyon] But when you do get the time?

[Peres] I will certainly devote efforts to normalizing and establishing diplomatic ties with these two countries.

[Ha'elyon] And do you think that although it seems that the incumbent regime in the Soviet Union is more anti-Jewish and anti-Israeli, that this could happen?

[Peres] We have already had diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, under tyrants who were also not particularly likable.

[Ha'elyon] The French president is really considered a close friend. Are there any grounds to the contention that he intends to summon to the Elysee Palace the representatives of the Governments of Israel, Egypt, and Jordan, and representatives of the Palestinians to try to achieve a breakthrough in the region?

[Peres] I would not turn down any meeting, except for international meetings with the participation of elements that are either hostile to us, or have ill-feelings toward us.

[Ha'elyon] Among which you naturally count the PLO?

[Peres] Not only the PLO. The Soviet Union, too, as long as there are no diplomatic relations with it.

[Ha'elyon] As for Judaea and Samaria, it has been said that the local population there wants to try the new government out, as for instance in the bus attack. How will the Cabinet behave?

[Peres] It would do everything that is necessary to guarantee the security of the inhabitants, irrespective of nationality or origin.

[Ha'elyon] Firmly?

[Peres] Yes! Definitely! Where security is concerned, there is no room for compromise!

[Ha'elyon] Do you not believe you are in a better position than the Likud government now? "Peace Now", for example, has not been heard from; nor was there a demonstration following the massacre at Suhmur, although in theory our responsibility there is bigger?

[Peres] No, the situation is not at all similar. [as published] Not that I am justifying the Suhmur massacre, but it was a vendetta. It was not an operation like...but let me not get into that....

[Ha'elyon] In hindsight, do you believe the demonstrations and polarization in the course of the Peace for Galilee operation helped Israel?

[Peres] Yes. I think they brought back to it many friends, and granted it an aura of a democratic country.

Shamir Continues Meeting Counterparts at UN

Describes Meeting With Gromyko

TA261916 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir, alternate prime minsiter and foreign minister, has welcomed the renewal of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Jordan. In an interview with the ABC television network, Minister Shamir said this is a positive step and represents a victory for the Camp David agreements. Foreign Minister Shamir is now meeting with his Polish counterpart. Last night Yitzhaq Shamir met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. This was the first meeting in 3 years for the two foreign ministers. Andrey Gromyko proposed an international conference to solve the Middle East peace problem. At the end of the meeting, our Washington correspondent Elimelekh Ram spoke with Minister Shamir.

[Begin videotape] [Ram] Do you think he really wants to arrive at an understanding?

[Shamir] I would not say that, but the very fact of his attempt to convince me of the justice of his position, of the need for an international conference to solve the Middle East problems, giving me all the possible reasons...

[Ram, interrupting] For instance?

[Shamir] For instance, that we are in no danger from such a conference because nobody will try to impose on us a solution we do not want. Nobody will try to harm us at such a conference. That after such a conference we will be able to arrive at a peaceful solution. At the previous meeting with him I did not hear, let us say, such an attempt to try to convince me.

[Ram] I can tell you that those reasons convince me, too. What...

[Shamir, interrupting] Fine, at any rate the Israeli position is well known, that is, that if we are really looking for the practical results of peace, of more peace, more security, more stability, this can come only from negotiations between the various elements, between us and the neighboring countries, the neighboring Arab countries, while an international conference generally turns into an arena for propaganda without any special benefit. Perhaps, after such talks, bilateral talks, these can lead to a solution that is closer to peace. Perhaps the time will come for such a conference.

[Ram] Was the question of Lebanon raised?

[Shamir] It was raised, of course, the question of Lebanon, the question of terrorism in the Middle East. I raised and expanded upon the problem of the Soviet Jews...

[Ram, interrupting] What did he reply?

[Shamir] ...Who are not being given the chance to immigrate. He told me that was not correct, saying: It is a fact that we have permitted hundreds of thousands of Jews to emigrate over the past years. That, too, he did not tell me in the previous meeting, but this is simply an arithmetical question. There are fewer Jews who want this.

[Ram] That is what he said?

[Shamir] That is what he said. I told him that we know there are hundreds of thousands of Jews who want to immigrate to Israel today, too, and they must be permitted to do so.

[Ram] Did you raise the question of resuming diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel?

[Shamir] Of course the question of relations between us...

[Ram, interrupting] You raised that?

[Shamir] It was raised constantly. I also told him that if they really want us to take their initiatives, their proposals, seriously, they must improve relations with us. They should have established normal relations, so that we could debate, we could argue, we could...

[Ram, interrupting] What was his reaction?

[Shamir] He said, this is, for the time being, their orthodox [last word in English] reaction, that as long as Israel does not change its policy, they cannot change their position. To this I responded that, after all, the Soviet Union maintains relations with many countries having policies with which it does not agree. Why do they discriminate against Israel? He did not reply to this. [end videotape]

RAKAH's Wilner Disappointed

TA271143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] RAKAH Leader Knesset Member Me'ir Wilner has expressed sorrow over the fact that the Shamir-Gromyko meeting ended in nothing, and charged Israel with responsibility for this failure. He believes there are no grounds for the contention that Israel cannot accept the Soviet Middle East peace plan because there are no relations between the two countries.

Meets Poland's Olszowski

TA270534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir conferred last night with Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Olszowski.

Shamir on Tenure as Premier, Future Projects

TA271123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0805 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Interview with Alternate Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Arye Golan; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Golan] The [Jewish] year that has just ended was in fact your year as Israel's prime minister. What would you present as the Shamir government's prime achievement?

[Shamir] I would not classify the achievements and call one the most important and term the other less important, but in retrospect I would say that there were a number of achievements last year — which was generally not easy. One must remember that I was appointed prime minister after Mr Begin left. This was an experience that heralded crises and difficulties. On the very first day that the Cabinet was sworn in we had to face the bank crisis and restore some stability and calm in the economy. We succeeded in that. Economically, we launched steps to improve Israel's balance of pyaments, at the second stage of which we planned to begin a war against inflation. When the first, positive, results of the campaign to improve the balance of payments could be seen, the Knesset decided to hold early elections, which terminated the execution of the plans to curb inflation. Then the election and everything involved in that began.

Before that, I can note a vigorous attempt, which I believe was crowned with significant success, in steps to improve and deepen relations with the United States. I believe that in this one can observe only achievements and progress characterized by three fundamental things: a marked improvement and substantial increase in the economic aid to Israel — this is the first time that it was given in its entirety in the form of a grant and in sums higher than before; second, the beginning of the negotiations on a free trade zone — which can contribute very significantly to our exports — and these were launched shortly after my appointment as prime minister, and will end today [as heard], in the very near future, in an agreement that will convert this project into an existing reality; and third, the strategic cooperation with the United States, in whose framework thorough, cordial, and friendly talks have been held over the past year. We are continuing to progress in this channel, which creates and establishes the background and atmosphere for sincere and highly effective friendly relations between Israel and the United States.

[Golan] But would it be correct, sir, to say that in fact in regard to the country's two central and most difficult issues — the economy and Lebanon — your government failed to make progress. Do you think this stemmed from lack of time?

[Shamir] Well, I would not make this statement. I began to explain that in the economic sphere we started out on the right foot. The war against inflation was not begun, as we were not given the opportunity as a result of declaring early elections. As for Lebanon, I think that we brought about some degree of stability in this campaign, which we wanted and strove to end. I think that we took certain steps during that year that brought us closer to ending this campaign. If the national unity government succeeds in solving that problem, then the previous government will have had some role in achieving that.

[Golan] Do you believe it will succeed in that? In other words, will the new, broad government established under Shim'on Peres, in rotation with yourself later on, survive and manage to solve the problems despite the differences of opinion between the Likud and the Alignment?

[Shamir] I sincerely hope and believe that the national unity government will succeed in fulfilling its mission, particularly with respect to two issues over which there are absolutely no differences of opinion. This includes the economic issue — on which we all share a common description of the situation as being a malady and a serious wrong, an economic crisis. There are no differences of opinion on the ways to overcome those difficulties. Therefore, in terms of the change and variety in the spectrum of

components on this Cabinet, this will have no negative effect on success in combating this problem and difficulty. As for Lebanon — the second mission the national unity government is faced with tackling — here too there are no substantial differences of opinion between the Likud and the Labor Party. Consequently, subjectively speaking, I can foresee no special difficulty, and I think that together we will be able to overcome this difficulty, too, and solve the problem. I believe that if the national unity government carries out these two missions, this alone will justify its existence.

Peres Said Informed on Jordan-Egypt Ties Renewal

TA261109 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Sep 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni yesterday conferred with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for the second time this week. The meeting was initiated by the Egyptian envoy. It has been learned that Basyuni informed Peres about Jordan's decision to restore relations with Egypt. Senior political sources in Jerusalem yesterday expressed satisfaction over the Jordanian decision which, in their opinion, attests to a weakening of the status of the PLO, which had opposed the Camp David accords and led the boycott against Egypt. Jerusalem was not surprised by the restoration of relations between the two countries, as their rapprochement had been going on for several months.

Jerusalem does not rule out the possibility that in the wake of this latest development, Jordan may comply with Reagan's initiative. If that is the case, the Alignment would increase its influence within the government to thaw the freeze on the peace process in the region.

Chief of Staff Levi on IDF Role in South Lebanon

TA261735 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Sep 84 p 21

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by military correspondent Yosef Walter; date and place not given]

[Text] Question: Lt Gen Levi, who is responsible for the acts of sabotage in Lebanon?

Answer: As far as I am concerned, the attacker is responsible and those who make these attacks possible are collaborators. We cannot address ourselves to one specific group. Some of those involved are not within our jurisdiction, but we are dealing with those who are within it. Some operations originate in Lebanon and others from the areas under Syrian control, both from foreign and remote countries [phrase as published] and from areas under our control.

Question: Does the fact that the terrorists have succeeded in returning to Beirut and establishing real strongholds there make Lebanon responsible for these attacks?

Answers: Legally speaking, a country is clearly responsible for what happens on its own territory and for what is being done from its territory against another country. However, I am afraid that the Lebanese Government cannot undertake this responsibility. Terrorists stayed behind in Beirut even after the IDF expelled them. Their numbers have increased now but they are not yet operating openly and their strength does not resemble what it was prior to the Peace for Galilee operation.

Question: Would you describe what happened in Suhmur as a "massacre"? What lessons did you learn from this incident?

Answer: The actions committed by the soldiers of the army of southern lebanon in Suhmur are serious and I do not need any other descriptions. Killing a person is very serious and that is what happened in this case. The soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon carried out a bloody act of of vengeance, which is incompatible with our norms of conduct. We handled this incident in the regular way, holding reconciliation meetings through the good offices of General Antoine Lahd. The lessons we learned from this incident are that we should take measures so that such incidents do not recur as long as the IDF is in Lebanon. Murders occur everywhere but, being in charge of the area, the IDF must make its best efforts. Does this influence our attitude toward the army of southern Lebanon? Those who assessed the situation correctly need not have been influenced very much. Of course, we will have to take this into consideration. We will have to impart to them the norms of conduct that are accepted by and obvious to us. This will not be an easy process but we will have to tackle it.

Question: Why was the IDF not prepared for such a possibility?

Answer: In every attack, there are people who shoot and people who get shot at. It depends. Can our activities prevent such incidents? To my regret, we cannot talk about such a rate of success. The fact is that we do a great deal and we do succeed but we cannot prevent this type of attack. In this specific case, many measures were taken to prevent such an incident. However, one must bear in mind that not all the developments can be foreseen in a long-term process. They could have staged their attack in the small hours of the night and inflicted heavier casualties. I believe that the commanders in the field contemplated this question. They were on the scene and they intervened rapidly at great risk to themselves and with a great deal of courage. Gen Lahd took the same approach and the attack stopped.

Question: Do you not think that this incident casts doubt on the role foreseen for the army of southern Lebanon in future arrangements?

Answer: The army of southern lebanon is only one of the elements of the plan and should not be examined individually. One cannot talk about any possible arrangement that would only include the army of southern Lebanon. If we talk about this specific incident, it will have an effect. It is too early to determine its effect but I believe that we can overcome this and retain the concepts we held before the incident in Suhmur. We will continue to strengthen the army of southern Lebanon and expand its zones of responsibility according to plans.

Question: Which other element will secure a future arrangement in Lebanon?

Answer: First of all, the IDF. It will shoulder the lion's share of the mission in any arrangement or deployment. Other elements will have to be reassessed. It seems to me that UNIFIL cannot be included in an arrangement. What is more, if anything goes wrong the IDF will have to act according to the circumstances.

Question: Last year military sources predicted that by the summer of 1984 Syria would achieve a strategic balance with Israel. In your opinion, has this proved to be true?

Answer: Syria has new ground, aerial, and naval weapon systems. I think that the Syrians believe that with the help of surface-to-surface missile systems they can make us fear an attack deep inside Israel's territory. This is due to the fact that they themselves fear they would not be able to penetrate our front lines. They have sophisticated planes, tanks, armored personnel carriers equipped with anti-tank missiles, and attack helicopters. I do not regard this strengthening lightly. Syria planned to increase its army and did so. The term strategic balance can be interpreted in various ways. From Syria's point of view, a strategic balance should give it the opportunity to wage war when it decides to do so and moreover, give it a chance of beating Israel, or at least not suffer a defeat that would endanger the existence of the Syrian regime. There is no argument that the Syrians are interested in threatening the very existence of the State of Israel, and it is clear that if they could do so they would attack us.

On the other hand, we must not downplay the quantity of weapons received by them, the improved level of organization, and the addition of new divisions to their Army. These are factors that increase the Syrian Army's power. I dealt with this issue quite extensively when IDF plans now in effect were drawn up. The question was asked whether the IDF should not decrease its resources due to Egypt's departure from the circle of hostility. My answer was that our present needs are a function of our future enemies, and we cannot treat the Syrian Army of 1984 the same way as the Syrian Army of 1977.

Question: In your opinion, how will an additional cut of $300 million effect the IDF?

Answer: This is a difficult cut, but its repercussions must not be judged only in terms of the shouts coming from without. I understand the necessity of improving the economy, and one of the ways to do it is to cut the IDF's budget as well. This is an interim stage in which we will have to decrease our spending. However, I want to talk about areas in which we will not make cuts — mainly in the field of investment in people. When the qualitative gap between us and our enemies' armies is pointed to, the individual factor is viewed as the source of victory. We must not take the individual for granted. We must fight so that our people will be the best, and guarantee that despite the upheaval in the economy we will not lose them.

Another area we will not cut is sophisticated weapon systems: research, development, acquisition, and training. We will have to continue, just as the farmer who even in hard times keeps his seeds, to ensure future growth. The IDF will have to go into the details of the running security expenses and cut them in such a way that the cuts in the standing army and in the reserve forces will not be severe and will not harm their preparation and readiness for war. This includes training, in which we must be sure that every bullet and shell we shoot hits the target. This is not only theoretical, we implement it every day and every hour. We will also have to make certain — and I believe that in that respect our situation is good — that our intelligence is kept at a high level. This is because somebody could use the cuts as an opportunity to attack. We have the means to safeguard the quality of intelligence which will prevent this kind of situation from developing.

Question: Assuming that the IDF will pull out of Lebanon in the next few months, will it be possible to talk about shortening the IDF soldiers' term of service?

Answer: This possibility must be considered against the background of the enemy's strengthening. One thing we must maintain is a standing army, able to respond immediately at any time. The war of the future will not be an easy war, and the sophisticated weapon systems do not make it easier. Withdrawing from Lebanon will not solve all the problems. The objective, as I see it, is to ensure the safety of the northern border, and we will also have to do this in the future. This episode will not be over and the problem will continue to exist; let us have no illusions about this. The security burden is influenced by what we do in Lebanon, but not to such an extent that a new deployment or a withdrawal from there will bring about a situation allowing us to shorten army service and decrease reserve duty to almost zero, or to train with unlimited amounts of ammunition; unfortunately, this is not how I see the future. We will have to continue to maintain a strong army, to act against terrorism on the northern border and to continue our efforts to prevent the next war, and if we are not able to do so, to come out of it victorious.

Question: How do you view current relations between Israel and Egypt, and Egypt's position on the Miri Herzog affair [girl who was reported missing in the Sinai]?

Answer: We have a peace treaty with Egypt. The process is just beginning, but it is problematic both for us and the Egyptians. The residue of many years cannot be erased in one day. I believe that relations between us can be built on and improved. At certain levels there is a lack of confidence, as for example in the Miri Herzog affair. Sometimes we feel that beyond the tragedy of Miri Herzog the Egyptians are trying to do something to us. In my opinion, the murder and dismemberment of the woman in 'Arad [in reference to a criminal case] is no less serious and cruel. I say this not to downplay what happened to Miri Herzog, but to say that I am against attempts to interpret our relations with Egypt based on this affair. I personally reject the idea that the Herzog affair should have any effect on Israeli-Egyptian relations. I suggest that we wait, that we step carefully and cautiously in accordance with the spirit of the peace treaty, and that we not jump the gun.

Question: Do you have any message for the Israeli people regarding the issue of the prisoners and the missing soldiers?

Answer: I can assure you that we are giving it all our energy and making every possible effort in every direction possible. I am happy that during the last year we were able to return home most of the prisoners and some of the missing soldiers. We solved the mystery of Sergeant Hezi Shay's disappearance. I can assure you that we will obtain the release of all of them.

Question: Do you know what has happened to soldier Samir As'ad?

Answer: There have been no sensational developments. The "Popular Front" announcement said that he was killed. We have no doubts whatsoever that he was not killed in the IDF Air Force attack. The terrorists themselves understand that nobody will accept this claim. According to their announcement, I cannot say whether Samir As'ad was indeed killed. On the basis of the information we have, I cannot answer with any degree of certainty. We regard Samir As'ad as a prisoner and we are doing all we can to secure his release.

Question: Is there any progress in the efforts to return the prisoners?

Answer: In such a situation it is hard to talk about progress. The test is unequivocal: Have the sons been returned home? Has the fate of the missing soldiers been discovered? In such a process you must have clear answers and not give in to feelings which might sometimes give rise to exaggerated hopes. The answer which is demanded of us and that we are trying to give is that we will bring them home.

Question: It has been reported that Major General Amir Drori's refusal to testify in the Sharon-*TIME* trial was given in accordance with your order. Why did you do this?

Answer: Ask me about my attitude toward the media. We live in a world in which the media plays an important role, but we must not allow it to harm national security. We cannot let an officer in the standing army testify on issues that still affect our security activity, and this in a place where we have no control over what is published and what can reach our enemies' hands. From my point of view this is the only reason — the possibility that such testimony might harm national security.

Deputy Chief of Staff on Iraqi Military Buildup

TA261356 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Deputy Chief of Staff David 'Ivri says Iraq has recently upgraded its military strength, increasing the number of its military divisions and absorbing new and sophisticated offensive weaponry including missiles. The Israel Defense Forces, 'Ivri told Israel radio, were taking into account the possibility that the new Iraqi military potential could be directed against Israel in the event of an end to the Gulf war. 'Ivri also said that it was now evident that the attack on the Iraqi nuclear plant in 1981 was justified. The public, he said, could rest assured that the IDF was doing all it could to meet the new threat posed by the enhancement of Arab military strength.

Moda'i Says Economic Preparations Completed

TA261526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said that all economic preparations have been completed and all the moves planned have been made. Yitzhaq Moda'i said the prime minister would go to the United States with the plan and he is confident that in Washington Shim'on Peres will find understanding. The Americans, Moda'i said, are prepared in principle to help Israel if we need aid. He was speaking with our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum after his talk with the Histadrut secretary general.

On the possibility that he will inform the Histadrut that the Finance Ministry has abandoned its intention to impose a surtax, the finance minister said it still stands. It is now being examined by the Finance Ministry along with other possibilities, and when the examination is concluded, he will consult the Histadrut and the employers again.

Rabin To Review Settlement Commitments With Arens

TA261354 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Sep 84 p 1

[Yehuda Litani report]

[Text] In a meeting between Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and representatives of the settlers in Hebron it was decided that all the commitments and resolutions made by the previous defense minister, Professor Moshe Arens, would be examined with Arens. Rabin said that he would not contradict earlier commitments.

The Hebron settlers believe that Arens' previous commitments to establish two to three new settlements site in the city of Hebron would be sufficient. This issue is currently being checked by the defense establishment and the settlers.

Sources in the Judaea and Samaria Council of Settlements said yesterday that the decisions reached by the Alignment and the Likud on the establishment of settlements would exceed the plan to set up five new settlements, two settlements per year, on the mountain ridge area.

Sources in the prime minister's office last night said that even one, rather than two settlements, would exceed the Alignment's settlement plan according to the agreement reached with the Likud.

Living Conditions in Territories Ordered Examined

TA261353 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Sep 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has ordered an examination into the possibilities of improving the living conditions of the inhabitants of the territories, so that Israel may comply with the repeated requests of Secretary of State George Shultz on this matter.

ALGERIA

Syria's al-Asad Contacts President Bendjedid

LD262323 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, received early tonight a telephone call from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The two presidents exchanged views concerning the prevailing situation, particularly in the Arab world.

LIBYA

Agreement on Chad With France Implemented

LD261038 Tripoli JANA in English 0928 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 1, Sept 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The implementation of the Libyan-French agreement on Chad signed by Claude Cheysson, the French minister for external relations and Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liason Bureau 17 September, began yesterday.

Morocco, Syria Contacted on Jordanian Decision

LD262303 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday [26 Sep] telephoned both King Hassan II and President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria concerning the Jordanian regime's decision to restore relations with the Egyptian regime. This decision constitutes a violation of the Baghdad summit resolutions to boycott the Egyptian regime for committing capital treason toward the right of the Arabs and reflects full disregard for the decisions of the kings and amirs and the Arab League.

The brother leader of the revolution explained to King Hassan II and President Hafiz al-Asad that what the Jordanian regime has done is a crime that cannot be condoned; it is an open recognition of the Zionist enemy, an endorsement of the treacherous stable David agreements, and neglect of Palestine, Jerusalem, and the usurped Arab territories. Unless the Jordanian regime withdraws its decision, measures must be taken to apply material and moral punishment against the regime. JANA has reported that the brother leader is maintaining contact with presidents and kings of other Arab countries to take a deterrent Arab stand against the decision of the Jordanian regime.

Restoration of Ties Condemned

LD261531 Tripoli JANA in English 1449 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 1, Sept 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Jordanian Council of Ministers decided, last night, to restore Jordan's political and diplomatic relations with Egypt. Cairo Radio said that King Husayn had phoned the president of the Egyptian regime informing him of the decision. The political editor of JANA commented on this decision as follows:

The Jordanian decision restoring relations with the Egyptian regime constitutes a blatant treachery not less, in any manner, than the treachery of defunct Al-Sadat to the Arab nation. In its essence, it is a clear and express recognition of the Zionist enemy paving the way to negotiate with and surrender to it in return for the establishment of a loose and artificial Jordanian-Palestinian entity out of the making of Washington and Tel Aviv and with the blessing of the reaction racing for surrender and submission. At the same time, the decision represents a dangerous precedent set up by the Jordanian treacherous and despicable stand in violation of Jordan's national obligations, the decision of Baghdad summit and the Arab consensus giving the treacherous regime in Egypt new excuses to continue its betrayal of the Arab nation, the isolation of Egypt from its sister countries, and hampering the Arab revolutionary struggle to liberate Palestine, regain the occupied Arab lands and strengthen the American-Zionist occupation of Lebanon. The Jordanian regime has no excuse to take this shameful stand as Husni Mubarak regime is the regime of Al-Sadat which committed high treason. It is the same regime which is declaring its adherence to Camp David agreements in considering its relationship with the Zionist enemy a strategic tie and blessing the Zionist presence in Golan, the West Bank, and south Lebanon. What has it changed about this puppet regime to make the Jordanian king carry out this despicable and treacherous decision? There is no change in the stands and policies of the regime of Husni Mubarak apart from its shameful submission before the Zionist's compromising Tabah and other parts of the country as well as leaving the door wide open to American military bases on Egyptian soil, the Rapid Deployment Forces, its disgusting invitation to the NATO fleets to concentrate in the Suez and Red Sea and, its continued relations with the fascist regimes and murder and mercenary gangs sponsored by the terrorist Reagan government.

The decision of the Jordanian regime to restore relations with the treacherous regime in Egypt is utterly unjustified and it would only encourage their regime to continue humiliating the Arab nation and provoke disinterest among the Arab masses for national struggle. In short, it is a treacherous act which serves only the interests of the Zionist enemy and encourages it to expand its aggression.

The audacious traitors who are working to foil the aspirations of the Arab masses and hamper their national ambitions, like King Husayn and Husni Mubarak, should not escape the punishment of these masses and ought to meet the same black fate which traitor Al-Sadat met during the famous attack on his stand.

JANA Calls for Boycott

LD262051 Tripoli JANA in English 1803 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 1, Sept 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — JANA political correspondent today called for an all-Arab boycott of the Jordanian regime in response to its treacherous decision to resume diplomatic relation with the Egyptian regime. In this respect the political correspondent wrote the following:

"The decision to resume diplomatic relations by the Jordanian regime is motivated by its shameful aim to dismantle the isolation of the Egyptian regime and to give the Zionist enemy a pretext to liquidate the Palestinian cause and to expand in Arab territories. This decision ridicules the Arab League. Conseqeuntly, the Arab citizens are justified to have no confidence in the Arab League and its secretary-general and not to trust any of the Arab leaders and kings who met in Baghdad and took a national decision of boycotting the Egyptian regime that committed high treason.

In this case, unless a firm unanimous urgent decision of boycotting the Jordanian regime is taken to force it to withdraw its step, the Arab League and all Arab summit conferences will, in practical terms, be of no significance. Basically, the resumption of Jordanian-Egyptian relations means a formal Jordanian recognition to the Zionist enemy, which is building nuclear power to destroy the Arab Nation.

The decision to resume diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime, which recognized the Zionist enemy and signed the agreement of shame in Camp David, does not only concern an individual Arab state, it concerns all the Arab states that met in Baghdad and decided to boycott the Egyptian regime until it abrogates these disgracing agreements. In specific terms, a national step of confrontation should take place against the Jordanian decision, a decision that betrayed the Arab nation. In effect, any form of retreatment or collaboration means nothing but defeat and submission.

We are now faced with an urgent situation whereby an Arab decision to boycott the regime of treason in Jordan (?should) be taken and that all designs he is working to achieve should be foiled. Such a decision would mean a national commitment to the Palestinian cause, to liberate Palestine and to settle the Arab-Zionist dispute in favour of the Arab nation".

JANA Ponders Murphy's Visits to Cairo, Amman

LD262112 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 26 Sep 84

["What Is Behind the Tour of Murphy and Jordanian Decision To Resume Relation With Egypt" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 1, Sept 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state, arrived this afternoon in Amman coming from the oppressed capital to meet King Husayn of Jordan. The visit of the American official to Egypt and Jordan comes at the time of the decision of the Jordanian regime to restore relations with Egyptian regime which gives an impression that a new reactionary American conspiracy is underway along the path of extending recognition of the Zionist enemy at the expense of the central cause of the Arab people in Palestine.

It seems clearly that there are [as received] coordination in American, Egyptian and Jordanian stands to begin implementation of this conspiracy which was prepared for total liquidation of the Palestinian cause and to pave the way for America and Zionist enemy to conspire against Syria, Lebanon and whole Arab nation.

Reagan Speech, Jordanian-Egyptian Relations Viewed

LD261541 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Indications in Washington and the Middle East are beginning to show intentions to return once again to Reagan's plan, proposed in September 1982, but which suffered a terrible failure. There are further details in the following report:

Since the beginning of this month, Reagan's government has been maneuvering to impose its plan once again. To implement this, a statement by the American State Department on the 2d anniversary of the plan stated that the United States still takes the same stand toward Reagan's initiative. The statement added that this initiative is still the only way for a lasting settlement in the region. The arrival of the U.S. assistant secretary of state to the Middle East region aimed to check the pulse of specific U.S. allies — especially Jordan, whose foreign minister expressed great satisfaction at the declaration of a U.S. State Department spokesman 2 days ago that the American Government considers Jordan a powerful partner in the search for peace in the Middle East — confirms the American Government's aims. This comes at a time when an announcement is made about restoring relations between the government of King Husayn and the Egyptian Government, which affirmed it still adheres to the search for peace.

In the speech delivered by President Reagan at the new UN General Assembly session, he personally confirmed his adherence to this plan and described it as representing a practical and applicable course. (?Resubmitting) his plan comes at a time his government faces and continues to face terrible failure in the Arab region. Moreover, it comes as competition for the presidency is intensifying and it is permissable to maneuver with everything and exploit everything.

Tripoli on Embassy Bombing, Naval Ships' Arrival

LD262116 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Official Lebanese sources confirmed yesterday that the Lebanese Government has not offered new military or other facilities for the U.S. naval ships that have appeared in the last 2 days off the Lebanese coast. The recent explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut angered the U.S. Administration and caused anxiety about its policy in Lebanon, a matter which made President Ronald Reagan rush to set up a war committee to prepare an urgent and detailed report on aggressive military measures by the U.S. Administration against Lebanon in response to the bombing incident which killed 15 Americans, injured 55 others [numbers as received], totally destroyed the building occupied by the officials, and the U.S. Embassy. The U.S. Defense Department also decided to deploy three naval ships to the Lebanese coast.

The Qatari *AL-'ARAB* commented on these events: The arrival of U.S. naval ships off Lebanon gives a clear example of the policy of force and terrorism pursued by the U.S. Administration for the sake of the Zionist occupation and to prevent Lebanon from enjoying its freedom.

However, the opinion of observers on these new developments is that this is not the only reason for the arrival of the naval ships off Lebanon. Lebanese-American relations have been disturbed since the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, and the U.S. Administration has been seeking since then to return to Lebanon through an intensified military attack, especially in light of Lebanese officials' statements on not allowing any outside party to interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs and not providing any opportunities for the normalization in Lebanon to be again disrupted and complicated.

African-Arab Union Secretary, Delegation Depart

LD252224 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Brothers Abdelouahed Radi, secretary general of the Arab-African Union; Ahmed Reda Guedira, adviser to King Hassan II; Driss Basri, minister of interior; Mustapha Belarbi Alaoui, minister of justice; and the accompanying Moroccan delegation left Tripoli this evening. Brother Abdelouahed Radi made a statement upon leaving Tripoli. He said: I am proud of the trust placed in me by King Hassan II and the leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi. I will try to be worthy of the trust, God willing. I will work with a militant spirit for the success of this unity. I have taken the oath before the king that I do this.

He said: I am certain that this unity will succeed, God willing, because I have sensed from the brother leader of the revolution and King Hassan II a rigid will capable of making it succeed, and of making it the nucleus around which the greater Arab Maghreb is built.

MOROCCO

Zhuravlev-Led Trade Delegation Arrives for Visit

LD261127 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Casablanca, 26 Sep (MAP) — Gennadiy Zhuravlev, the Soviet first deputy minister at the Ministry of Foreign Trade, arrived last night in Casablanca heading an important delegation on a working visit to Morocco which will continue for 8 days. The Soviet delegation, during its stay in Morocco, will participate in the Moroccan-Soviet Trade Committee.

Trade Talks Begin

LD270013 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat, 26 Sep (MAP) — The work of the joint Moroccan-Soviet committee began today in Rabat under Azzedine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry and tourism, and Gennadiy Zhuravlev, first deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR. The work of this committee falls under the long-term agreement signed by the two countries on 10 March 1978 on phosphates, and the trade agreement signed on 3 July 1979. On this occasion two protocols will be signed — one on chemical products and the other on trade of traditional goods. In this context the two sides focused on the importance of diversifying trade products.

The Moroccan minister noted that commercial cooperation is a necessary ballast for cooperation in all fields and recalled the meeting of the joint Moroccan-Soviet committee held last May. The leader of the Soviet delegation, Gennadiy Zhuravlev, having recalled the long history of Soviet-Moroccan relations and their steady development, reviewed the trade between the two countries and expressed the hope that a trade balance would be achieved. The Soviet official also recalled the message sent by the Moroccan premier to the Soviet Government concerning trade relations between the two countries, particularly in the field of phosphate exploitation. He noted that his government took into consideration the proposals of the Moroccan premier which are aimed in particular at increasing the volume of exchanges between the USSR and Morocco.

Trade between the two countries has undergone steady growth over the years 1977-81 as the value of Moroccan exports to the USSR rose from 226.3 million dirhams in 1977 to 684.3 in 1981; while Soviet exports to Morocco rose from 377 million dirhams in 1977 to 861 million dirhams in 1981. As to the period 1981-1983, Moroccan exports to the USSR have experienced a noticeable reduction, declining from 684.3 million dirhams in 1981 to 247.9 million dirhams in 1983; while Soviet exports to Morocco rose from 861 million dirhams in 1981 to 139.98 billion dirhams in 1983. Trade includes citrus fruit, cork, canned sardines, and phosphoric acid exports to the USSR; and liquid amonia, lubricants, glass, tractors, and electrical meters imports from the USSR.

Accord Signed With Libya on Security, Movement

LD261655 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] At noon today at the Fes Governorate building, an agreement on security issues and movements of individuals was signed between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. [Words indistinct] after 15 days of exchanging the documents of its contract and approval in accordance with the adopted procedures of the two countries.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Moroccan side by Interior Minister Mr Driss Basri and on behalf of the Libyan side by Secretary of the People's Committee for Justice Mr Miftah Du'aybah, in the presence of Secretary General of the African-Arab Union Mr Abdelouahed Radi, the ambassadors of the two countries, the secretary general of the Interior Ministry, and the members of the Moroccan-Libyan joint committee that prepared the text of the agreement.

On this occasion, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice Mr Miftah Ku'aybah delivered a speech in which he pointed out the importance of this step, considered the cornerstone in constructing the African-Arab Union. He pointed out that what is contained in the text of the agreement is considered a true translation of the wishes of the two fraternal peoples in Morocco and the Libyan Jamahiriyah in consolidating the contacts between them. He expressed his hopes that this step will be followed by other steps in the sphere of actions aimed at uniting the countries and peoples of the Arab world. He added that his visit to Morocco enabled him to become acquainted with the

serious and continuous work [words indistinct] in the technical, economic, and labor spheres.

Interior Minister Mr Driss Basri delivered a speech in which he recalled the efforts of the Libyan-Moroccan joint committee, which worked hard to draft the agreement, and praised these efforts which were [words indistinct] of the wishes of both countries in crystalizing the concept of the African-Arab Union and moving it to the stage of implementation. The minister added that this agreement is considered the cornerstone in giving the union the necessary impetus to reach the goal the leaders of both countries — His Majesty King Hassan II and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Al-Fatih Revolution — aspire.

He stressed that the political and popular wills in both countries aspire to [words indistinct] and its strong bases. He recalled in this respect his majesty's appointment of Mr Abdelouahed Radi as secretary general of the union, and the dispatch of the royal delegation, which included his majesty's adviser, Mr Ahmed Reda Guedira, Justice Minister Moulay Mustapha Belarbi Alaoui, Interior Minister Mr Driss Basri, and the chairman of the Scientific Council in Rabat and Sale.

He underlined the implications of these initiatives for Morocco, which wants the African-Arab Union to be permanently based and to be guaranteed to continue. He pointed out what Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi demonstrated in receiving the Moroccan delegation of political and popular will [word indistinct], in giving the union the firm bases that would guarantee success for it, bearing in mind that the leaders of the two countries know about the conspiracies hatched in secret and aimed at defeating this initiative [words indistinct].

He drew attention to the fact that the crystalization of this will demands that the brothers in Morocco be allowed [words indistinct] to move in the best possible way between the two countries, as confirmation of the union in its essence, in [words indistinct], and to prove to everyone that the African-Arab Union is strong and permanent.

The African Arab Union Secretary General Mr Abdelouahed Radi talked (?afterward) about this agreement. He said that it represents the element of trust between the two countries, whether at the level of the leaders or at the level of the two peoples. He said that this agreement will prove to the world that the two countries, under the leadership of their leaders, His Majesty King Hassan II and President [title as heard] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, have decided to teach a lesson to all those who doubted the sincerity of the Oujda agreement.

It should be noted that the agreement concerning the security issues and the movement of individuals includes 11 articles. As a whole it specifies the means and methods of cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of movement between Morocco and Libya, and it has been decided to abandon the system of visas between the two countries, and the articles of the agreement also specify the legal framework of cooperation between them in the sphere of security [words indistinct].

SUDAN

King Husayn Telephones President Numayri

JN261125 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Sep (SUNA) — His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan phoned President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri last night congratulating him on the new Hegira year. King Husayn conveyed to President Numayri his approval of the message carried by President Numayri's envoy Fathi 'Umar Abu al-Hasan, chairman of the board of the Sudanese Air Transport Company. President Numayri stressed that Jordanian-Sudanese relations are firm and that the two countries seek to promote them. He expressed hope that the joint projects between the two countries will be in their interest.

President Numayri exchanged congratulations with King Husayn, stressing Sudan's concern about promoting fraternal relations. The president also assured himself of the conditions of the Jordanian people. He affirmed to his majesty Sudan's appreciation for the stands of the Jordanian Government and people, wishing Jordan and its people more success. President Numayri sent a written message to King Husayn on 18 September dealing with cooperation in the field of air transportation. Lieutenant General Abu al-Hasan delivered the message to Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan.

KENYA

Foreign Minister Meets Pakistan Production Minister

EA252149 Nairobi KNA in English 1810 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Nairobi, Sept 25 — The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, today asked the Government of Pakistan to assist Kenya, whose economy is based on agriculture, so that the country could be transformed into an industrialised state. Mr Mwangale said he was convinced that Pakistan had the capacity and generosity to share the technology with Kenya because of the cordial relationship existing between the two countries.

He said this when he received in his office the Pakistan minister in charge of production and parastatal bodies, General Said Qadir, who is currently on a visit to Kenya. The foreign minister said that the firm foundation for cordial and warm relations and meaningful cooperation between the two states is due to the relentless efforts of President Daniel arap Moi and the Pakistan head of state. This bond of friendship, Mr Mwangale observed has grown from strength to strength since President Moi made a state visit to that country. Various agreements have been signed since then and the fact that we have appointed an ambassador to Pakistan is clear demonstration of this friendship between the two states, said the minister.

The minister reaffirmed Kenya's non-aligned policy, adding that Kenya would continue to strive for peace in the world to save mankind from destruction and noted that Kenya and Pakistan shared the same views. General Qadir is scheduled to attend the Nairobi international show during his visit. Mr Mwangale informed the guest that the show was the window of the country where her goods were displayed, while at the same time Kenya learned a lot from the developed countries which participate.

In response, General Qadir said he was overwhelmed by the warm reception accorded him since he arrived in the country, adding that he was also grateful for the opportunity accorded his country to have a stand at the showground. He told Mr Mwangale that his country would like to share her economic progress with Kenya but also pointed out that though an advanced nation, Pakistan had a lot to learn from Kenya. He added that his country found it easier to join hands with Kenya, which he said enjoyed immense stability and had a free market enterprise, which held a lot of attraction for Pakistan.

CAMEROON

Protocol Signed With USSR on Forestry Training

AB261616 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The vice minister of agriculture, Dr Solomon Nfor Gwei, has emphasized that the training of forestry technicians should be of a quality that would give maximum satisfaction in the near future. Dr Nfor Gwei was speaking today on the occasion of the signing of a protocol agreement between Cameroon and the Soviet Union on the training of technical personnel at the forestry school at Mbalmayo.

The vice minister said that forestry technicians must have enough mastery of their fields of specialization given the predominant role that forestry and agriculture play in Cameroon. Dr Nfor Gwei expressed the wish that Soviet-Cameroonian cooperation would improve the present instructional quality of the forestry school at Mbalmayo.

[Begin Nfor Gwei recording] Not only do we want to maintain but also to improve the present instructional quality of the school during the era of the New Deal. It is in this respect that we envisage for the next phase of our agreement the inclusion of a training component for Cameroonian teachers which will also englobe [as heard] a better exchange of experience and methodology between forestry training in Cameroon and the USSR. Such training will also ensure the progressive replacement of the Soviet personnel by Cameroonians. We also envisage the improvement of equipment furnished by Soviet assistance in view to better adapting them to our own needs. The follow-up of the present Soviet-Cameroonian cooperation at the Mbalmayo forestry school and future projects designed for the improvement of personnel (?acquisitions) make us hope that the training of our technicians shall be of a quality that will give maximum satisfaction in the near future. [end recording]

Also at the ceremony, the Soviet ambassador to Cameroon, Spartak Zykov, said the Soviet Union was optimistic that economic cooperation between his country and Cameroon would take greater dimensions in other concrete areas of development.

Habre To Meet With Mitterrand in Paris 'Soon'

AB261625 Paris AFP in French 1601 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, 26 Sep (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre will be received in Paris "soon" by President Francois Mitterrand. This was disclosed today by Chadian Presidential Envoy Karim Togoi after his meeting with the president of the republic. Mr Togoi said that he had delivered a message from the Chadian head of state to Mr Mitterrand and that it was a reply to a message from the French president to Hissein Habre. Mr Togoi, who refused to disclose the contents of the message, said that President Hissein Habre had been invited by President Mitterrand to visit Paris.

French presidential aides pointed out that the visit would take place "soon".

Korom: Chad No Longer Will Call on 'Foreign Powers'

AB261700 Paris AFP in French 1418 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Niamey, 26 Sep (AFP) — In the future, Chad will no longer call on France "or on other foreign powers. It will ensure its own security through its own means." This was stated today in Niamey by Chadian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmed Korom.

Mr Korom, who was just passing through Niger where he delivered to Niger head of state, General Seyni Kountche, a message from his Chadian counterpart, Hissein Habre, said Chad could not "be constantly governed by aid from abroad," even if "some friendly countries understand our position and support us diplomatically."

Referring to the France-Libyan withdrawal agreement which began yesterday, Mr Korom said that France let itself be deceived by Libya. In the past, he added, Libya "has always left the Islamic Legion behind. The legion is 99 percent black. France has allowed Libya to become a regional power and can no longer do anything about it."

"If we had been involved in the negotiation of this agreement, which became effective yesterday, the difficulties arising from its implementation would have been avoided and we would probably have been able to restore peace permanently to Chad," he said.

Beninese Observers Rejected; Others Viewed

LD261703 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] From the point of view of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], Radio Bardai, which broadcasts from (?Sebha) in southern Libya, accuses the Ndjamena government of seeking to sabotage the disengagement agreement by refusing the presence of Benin observers. On this subject, it is now certain that the Ndjamena government will not accept any observers from Benin.

However, Mr Allam-mi, Chad's ambassador to Paris points out that if Libya chose another country, this proposal would be studied. Mr Allam-mi notes that about 30 men equipped with binoculars will not be able to do much in the desert and that, therefore, more of them will be needed, since what Ndjamena fears is a resumption of the armed rebellion with indirect Libyan support, Mr Allam-mi notes further. He also draws attention to Mr At. Turayki's statements to the Lausanne paper.

French Munitions-Loaded Aircraft Leave Ndjamena

AB261606 Paris AFP in English 1601 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Sept 26 (AFP) — Two French transport aircraft, each loaded with 20 tons of munitions, left here today as France continued its withdrawal from Chad under its agreement with Libya, an informed source said.

Meanwhile, another reliable source said that Paris had officially asked the Ndjamena auhtorities to (?let in) Senegalese observers monitoring the withdrawal, although there was no indication today whether they had arrived here. The Senegalese were last reported at Kano in northern Nigeria, where a joint Franco-Libyan commission has been set up to deal with any disputes between the two sides. Another group of Senegalese was to go to Bardai in northern Chad to monitor the withdrawal of the Libyan troops, which have been backing opponents of the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre.

The withdrawal of around 3,000 French troops and an estimated 5,000 Libyans is expected to go on until mid-November.

FAN Commander Voices Doubts as Troops Withdraw

PM270755 Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Sep 84 p 6

[Laurent Zecchini dispatch: "Confusion Over Monitoring of Double Withdrawal"]

[Text] Ndjamena — Operation Vandoise began at 0000 hours this Tuesday, 25 September, at least officially. However, right until the last minute, the Manta Force's command allowed doubt to remain over the actual date of the start of the withdrawal of French troops from Chadian territory, reiterating that it was a "political decision" which rested with Paris. This uncertainty was fueled by the fact that one of the conditions set by the Franco-Libyan agreement — the question of observers — was far from being fulfilled.

At all events, Ndjamena's rejection of Benin — the country chosen by Libya — is a hitch in a process which, to be credible, must confirm strictly to the agreement between Paris and Tripoli. However, that will not be the case, since the observers are not in a position to carry out their mission in the field right from the start of the simultaneous withdrawal of the French and Libyan troops.

The Senegalese contingent, whose arrival in Ndjamena had still not been announced late this Tuesday morning, comprises around 30 men, half of whom will supervise the operations in Ndjamena, the others going to the French positions north of the capital. The members of the Franco-Libyan joint commission who have the job of settling disputes which might arise in the course of the withdrawal operations — on the basis of reports from observers — are due to meet in Kano, a city located 800 km north of Lagos.

The choice of Nigeria as the host country for the joint commission is highly symbolic: on 23 March 1979, following the Kano agreement, General Malloum, then head of state, and Hissein Habre, then prime minister, resigned from their respective posts and a "provisional state council," chaired by Goukouni Oueddei, was installed in Ndjamena.

This commission, comprised of French and Libyan general staff officers, will have at its disposal considerable telecommunications equipment enabling it to remain in contact with the observers. In addition, the Chadian general staff is inspecting its troops deployed in the north of the country. Idriss Debi, commander in chief of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FAN], refused to specify when the government troops would move northward to recapture the cities hitherto held by National Unity Transition Government [GUNT] elements.

In an interview granted to a few journalists on 24 September, he also presented a document, dated 29 August, sent by "Eagle Authority, Tripoli" to the "central council of the reconstituted Chadian Armed Forces [FAT]" (Footnote) (The FAT formerly comprised the armed supporters of Lieutenant Colonel Kamougue, a southern leader who is still, at least nominally, GUNT vice president). This document, he said, was found in southern Chad among equipment belonging to commandos fighting the Ndjamena government.

Libya was replying to a message dating back to 7 January 1984, announcing an "agreement to reconstitute the FAT." "Eagle Authority" stated: Satisfied with your anti-imperialist position. Stop. Have already sent first consignment of equipment by same route. Stop. More will be sent to you provided commandos unify and break with Ndjamena. Stop. Revolutionary greetings. Stop." The Chadian commander in chief said that the commandos were receiving support from Libya on both the financial and the military levels and that "weapons are being dropped."

Questioned on the violent repression, which the FAN allegedly carried out against the southern rebels, Idris Debi "refused to believe" that government troops could have indulged in such practices. He admitted that the Manta Force's departure will primarily jeopardize the "retraining" of the Chadian forces by the French Army, specifying that, in some cases, this military training has already been stopped.

The commander in chief paid tribute to the Manta Force's deterrent and humanitarian role and to the fact that the French Army "has helped restore confidence to the civilian population," but he also said: "We have not succeeded in obtaining the minimum of equipment to create a balance of forces with the enemy." Idriss Debi does not believe that the Libyans will really withdraw. He illustrated this conviction by saying: "Al-Qadhdhafi is going to leave the house but stay on the roof."

Political, Military Situation Has 'Deteriorated'

AB261330 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 2000 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] While all patriotic Chadians are expressing happiness over the decision by France and Libya to withdraw their troops from Chad and all the countries of the world are rejoicing over this news, the authorities in Ndjamena are expressing their opposition to the withdrawal of the French forces. According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, Hissein Habre has just [words indistinct] but this has not moved the French authorities who are ever decided to leave Chad.

"Still, according to our permanent correspondent, the French elements have finally understood that despite their military presence in Chad, the bourgeois clique in Ndjamena have proved incapable of taking advantage of the French presence to firmly

establish themselves in the country." This is demonstrated particularly by the general and generalized degradation of the political and military situation in the southern part of the country following the creation of the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution]. This situation seems to have precipated the French decision.

The situation in Chad has deteriorated completely. According to our permanent correspondent, road traffic is impossible from the town of Djember. "The murderous ambushes against the elements of the puppet army can no longer be counted. In retaliation, the reactionary horde is hounding the village people."

ZAIRE

PRC Envoy on Ties With Zaire, Third World

AB261410 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0935 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 25 Sep (AZAP) — Li Shanyi, PRC ambassador to Zaire, said at a news conference held on Tuesday at the Press House as part of the activities marking the forthcoming 35th anniversary of the founding of the PRC, that the relations of cooperation between his country and Zaire have not encountered any problem since they were normalized in November 1972.

The Chinese diplomat pointed out that trade exchanges between the two countries have fallen off over the past few years due to the poor world economic situation. However, he added, authorities of the two countries are leaving no stone unturned to strengthen these exchanges.

Speaking on China's foreign policy, Li Shanyi stated that Beijing is invariably pursuing an independent foreign policy. While bolstering solidarity and cooperation with all Third World countries, China is developing friendly relations with various countries. It supports all peoples in their fight to safeguard their independence and peace and to achieve economic development.

BURKINA

Congo's Sassou-Nguesso Sends Message to Sankara

AB261840 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Captain Blaise Compaore, minister of justice acting for the head of state, this morning received in audience Comrade Abel Wilson (Ndembegta), secretary general at the Congolese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Comrade (Ndembegta) is bearing a message from President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to his Burkinabe counterpart, Captain Thomas Sankara. There were no details on the contents of this message. Questioned on the Chadian issue, he said that the only solution to the Chadian conflict is negotiation.

Reportage on Visit to Cuba by President Sankara

For Cuban media reportage on the visit to Cuba by Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of Burkina, see the Cuba section of the 27 September Latin America *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

GHANA

PNDC Secretaries Leave for U.S., Soviet Union

AB261417 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Two PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] secretaries have left Accra for the United States and the Soviet Union to attend meetings there. They are the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Assamoah, who has gone to New York to attend the 39th session of the UN General Assembly now in session, and the secretary for PDC's [People's Defense Committees] and WDC's [Workers' Defense Committees], Mr Akrasi-Sarpong, who is heading a 2-man government delegation for a meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia Republic, in the Soviet Union.

Speaking to newsmen before departure, Dr Obed Asamoah said a number of economic and political issues will be discussed during the session. He noted that the significance of the current session will be discussions on the escalation of the cold war between superpowers. Dr Asamoah added that world peace is greatly threatened by the failure of the superpowers to find peaceful negotiations on nuclear disarmament. According to Dr Asamoah, the session will make efforts at bringing the superpowers to enter into negotiations.

On his part, Mr Akrasi-Sarpong, who is also the acting secretary to the NDC [National Defense Committee], says their visit is at the invitation of the Solidarity Committee of the Soviet Union. He said the conference, which is the fifth summit of the solidarity committee, is being organized for the peoples of Asia and Africa. Mr Akrasi-Sarpong stated that issues on world peace and tensions created by antirevolutionaries will be discussed. According to the secretary, activities of defense committees will also be featured at the meeting. It will afford the team an opportunity to learn experiences of other countries in their struggle for social justice and peace.

The other member of the delegation is Mr Opare-Ababio, general secretary of the Public Service Workers' Union of the TUC [Trades Union Congress]. Meanwhile, the secretary for fuel and power, Mr Appiah-Korang, has returned home after a visit to France.

GRAPHIC on Libyan-French Pullout From Chad

AB260925 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* takes up a foreign issue. It writes on the simultaneous withdrawal of Libyan and French troops from Chad. In an editorial headed "What Comes After the Withdrawals?," the paper agrees that the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Chad is a necessary precondition for the establishment of peace in the country. But, says the *GRAPHIC*, the withdrawal by itself alone cannot solve the problems of Chad. Even though the Libyans and French are leaving the country, forces of the Zairian Army will remain. It does not see the reason why other forces must remain in Chad after the Libyan and French withdrawals. A commitment on the part of the other forces to withdraw is a necessity for peace in the country.

In the view of the paper, the most important thing for Africans to consider now is what happens to Chad after the troop withdrawal.

It disagrees that another OAU force must be sent to the country because of the result of the first one sent there in 1982. The OAU must start a dialogue between the warring factions immediately. The *GRAPHIC* is happy that efforts are being made to convene peace talks on Chad. It calls on the leaders of the factions in Chad to abandon their intransigent positions and negotiate in good faith.

GUINEA

Government Announces Ambassadorial Appointments

AB261830 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, in accordance with the declaration of the Army takeover on 3 April 1984; in accordance with the proclamation of the Second Republic; in accordance with Edict No 001 CMRN 84 of 5 April 1984 on the appointment of members of the government of the Republic, decrees:

Article 1. The following have been appointed ambassadors of Guinea abroad:

Abidjan, Ivory Coast: Sekou Philo Camara, Ministry of Higher Education and Research
Accra, Ghana: (Dore Dialle Derousse), of the Television Education Department
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Boukar Biro Barry, presidency of the Republic
Algiers, Algeria: Dr Kenkoura Camara, formerly ambassador to Rabat
Bamako, Mali: Mohammadou Ma Diallo
Bissau, Guinea-Bissau: Birame Ndiaye, Education, Boke
Brazzaville, Congo: Bonata Dieng, formerly [words indistinct]
Dakar, Senegal: Momo Keita, Ministry of Mines and Geology
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Major Mamadou Babangoura, formerly ambassador to Cuba
Lagos, Nigeria: Koma Beavogui, director general, (?Sogipla)
Cairo, Egypt: Mamadou Saliou Sylla, formerly ambassador to Jeddah
Freetown, Sierra Leone: Mrs Tiguidanke Diakhaby, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
Kinshasa, Zaire: Felix Ndengue, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Maputo, Mozambique: Cheikh Thierno, Ministry of Agriculture
Monrovia, Liberia: Rene Gabriel, Ministry of Transport
Rabat, Morocco: Radrhame Bangoura, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tripoli, Libya: Sidi Garah, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia: Boubacar Barry, office of the prime minister
Beijing, China: Fode Djibril Camara, deputy director general, Batifor
Tokyo, Japan: Bangali Dabo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Havana, Cuba: Lieutenant Koubou Laye, chief of staff, militia
United Nations: Saliou Koumbassa, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Ottawa, Canada: Abdoulaye Sylla, Palace of Nations
Washington, USA: Tolloh Beavogui, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Belgrade, Yugoslavia: Thierno Mamadou Diallo, Ministry of Social Affairs
Berlin, GDR: Moktar Toure, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Bonn, FRG: Alkhaly Bangoura, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Manea
Brussels, Belgium: Ibrahima Sylla, EEC, Brussels
Bucharest, Romania: Fode Cisse, lecturer, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Moscow, USSR: Dr Ibrahima Fofana, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Paris, France: Sekou Dekhazi Camara, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Rome Italy: Mami Kouyate, formerly ambassador to Dakar

Article 2. The present ordinance will be published in the *OFFICIAL GAZETTE* of the Republic. Issued in Conakry, 25 September 1984.

Signed, Colonel Lansana Conte

IVORY COAST

Reportage on Visits by PDCI-RDA Delegations

Official Condemns Leaflet Distributors

AB261413 Abidjan Television Service in French 2000 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Excerpt] A delegation of the Political Bureau [of the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-Africa Democratic Rally, PDCI-RDA] led by Paul Gui Dibo [minister of mines] was in Gagnoa today.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] A country cannot be built in anarchy, disorder, and laxity. An organized country must use all legal means to preserve its citizens from any course capable of jeopardizing its harmonious development. Leaflets create an unhealthy climate. Their authors must be pursued where they are residing, that is, in Abidjan. They must stop troubling the tranquillity of the hardworking masses. [applause] We do not need subversive elements in our town. [end recording]

'Militants' Welcome Delegation

AB261406 Abidjan INFORMATION in French 24 Sep 84 pp 2, 3

[From our special correspondent Ouffouet Kouame]

[Excerpts] Akoupe — (AIP) [dateline as received] — "Yes to the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast — African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA], no to subversion," the militants of Affrey, a district capital, cried out loud when they came out in their numbers on Friday 21 September to welcome the party delegation led by Pierre Koffi Nguessan. Affrey was the fourth town in the department of Adzope to be visited by the delegation. In his welcome address, Michel Yapi Yapi, secretary general of the local section of the party, expressed the happiness of the people to be welcoming Mr Nguessan's delegation. "Subversion will not gain ground in the Akoupe district. We see to that by scrutinizing the surroundings every single day to denounce the slightest destabilization move. The militants of Akoupe will never allow themselves to be misled by demagogues who are not aware of or pretend not to know the benevolent actions of the party, the PDCI-RDA, and its chairman, the illustrious leader that God has given the people of Ivory Coast. Today, we are proud to have a head of state that the whole world comes to consult each day. This opportunity is not given to everyone."

Interior of Country Visited

AB262055 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 25 Sep 84 pp 6, 7, 8

[Report on Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally, PDCI-RDA, delegation's tour into interior of country led by Ministers Kei Boguinard, Balla Keita, Dona Fologo, and Bamba Vamoussa]

[Excerpts] The Political Bureau delegation being led by Minister of State Emile Kei Boguinard was at Alepe on Thursday, 20

September, at Jacqueville on Friday, 21 September, and at Dabou, the last stage of its mission, on Saturday, 22 September.

Wherever they went, a happy, militant people came out, greeted, and welcomed the messengers of the party, the PDCI-RDA, thus verifying their total adherence to the ideals of the party and of its chairman, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Speaking to the militants of Alepe, Jacqueville, and Dabou, Emile Kei Boguinard said: The head of state and chairman of the party is grateful to you and thanks you for having accepted all the remedial measures that the unhappy realities have forced us to take. In addition to this, the party messenger spoke at length about the new measures and steps taken to issue all citizens identity cards within a short time. Between now and June 1985, every citizen must be in possession of his identity card. "A country is not built on disorder, insecurity, and distrust, but on peace and harmony," he said.

At Botro and Bodokro, the Political Bureau delegation headed by Dr Balla Keita, a member of the Executive Committee of the PDCI-RDA was surprised by the expression of confidence and firm commitment of the militants to fight against subversion and the demagogy of destabilization.

The militants of Botro and Bodokro, whom the delegation of the PDCI visited on Wednesday, have shown their political maturity and their knowledge of the economic situation. Their spokesman, in fact, condemned the irresponsible behavior of the perpetually dissatisfied people who attribute our present difficulties to so-called bad administration. They praised the PDCI's immense construction work and firmly promised to defend its gains, spread its orders, and fight its enemies to the last breath.

In the face of divisive tendencies by various ethnic groupings, the party messenger recommended unity, tolerance, and brotherhood. At Botro he was reassured by Salif Toure, head of the Malinke community, who praised peaceful coexistence: I have two Baoule wives. We live in real brotherhood here. At Botro everyone has realized that the PDCI is a party of the masses.

I am proud to tell the PDCI that Sinfra lives as a unit according to the party's rhythm. After addressing the people of Bouafle, this is how Comrade Laurent Dona Fologo, minister of youth and sports and member of the Executive Committee, addressed the people of Sinfra on Thursday.

Comrade Fologo, bearing a message from the party to the local authorities — an action that has become a tradition since the last congress — reassured the militants of Sinfra: We have not come to see you because there is something wrong in the PDCI-RDA. The party is not in danger. The only thing is that in Sinfra, as in other towns, the party is here to advocate reconciliation between all its valiant members.

Comrade Fologo also called on the militants to concern themselves more with the continuation of Houphouet-Boigny's work than with the problems of succession. It is necessary, he said, to unite and avoid being duped.

Call for Vigilance Made

AB262210 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 26 Sep 84 p 7

[Excerpts] The Political Bureau delegation led by Denis Bra Kanon, minister of agriculture, waters, and forests, started its mission in Kouaasi-Kouassikro and arrived in Dimbokro where it held a working session on Monday, 17 September. It ended its mission in Daoukro where Henri Konan Bedie, the deputy of the region leading the local political and administrative authorities, welcomed him.

The head of the party delegation expressed satisfaction over the militancy of the local authorities and the population. He addressed them, saying:

"As you know, our party, the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally (PDCI-RDA) is first of all a family, a very big family within which all Ivorians are born, grow up, and thrive. And, as in any family, the members ought to meet as often as possible to discuss common problems and together seek solutions to their everyday difficulties, share their joys, their hopes, and their sufferings. We are not here to perform miracles, but we are here to call for your vigilance to fight troublemakers."

Air Afrique Sees No Safety Problems

AB261020 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The management of Air Afrique company has issued some clarifications following the alarming statements made to the French press by the Union of French Airline Pilots — which has been at odds with the Air Afrique management for many weeks now — claiming that because of the strike by pilots and flight technicians, some of the company's planes are now being piloted by foreigners, notably Yugoslav personnel, who have up till now not been able to master the operational manuals which are written in French, thus creating enormous risks for Air Afrique flights.

In this connection, the Air Afrique management points out that the Yugoslav pilots started operating the Air Afrique DC-10 planes only after their certificates had been validated by the management board of the Ivory Coast civil aviation authorities. These Yugoslav pilots have undergone flight-simulator tests on normal, abnormal, and emergency procedures involving DC-10 planes, which some of them have been flying for over 6 years.

On the issue of documents, the management notes that they have been supplied with manuals in English, which is the working language of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and which is universaly used by all pilots. The operational manual of the DC-10 can be found on board and it constitutes the operational document for the pilots.

Concerning the navigation system for (?Aeronav) zones, for which the Air Afrique company is specially equipped, the pilots have received both instructions in simulators and documents written in English by the manufacturer of the DC-10 planes, Douglas. In order to guarantee the adaptation of procedures used

by Air Afrique, an Air Afrique flight instructor accompanies the pilots on their first commercial flights. The Yugoslav pilots also operate Boeing-727 planes for which they are perfectly qualified and where safety measures are the same as for the DC-10.

Consequently, Air Afrique management assures all travelers that they run no risk on board their planes, and that all Air Afrique planes are operated with maximum security, as always.

Negotiations With Union Rejected

AB261755 Paris AFP in French 1452 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Abidjan, 26 Sep (AFP) — Air Afrique rejects any negotiation with the representatives of the French National Airline Pilots Union, SNPL, a communique handed today to the AFP bureau in Abidjan announced.

In the communique, the company's general management said that the strike was called on 11 September by a union "which is neither qualified nor legally entitled to act in a foreign company under foreign laws" and that, worse still, the strike is illegal under the Ivorian labor law.

The communique also denies that negotiations are now in progress with a representative of the SNPL and it says that if there were any negotiations at all, which it has never (?envisioned), these could not be held with representatives of the union.

In conclusion, Air Afrique's management denies having made contacts with a "high African authority" who could have acted as mediator.

LIBERIA

Official Corrects Press Report on 1984-85 Budget

AB270915 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] An official of the Interim National Assembly [INA] has reacted to a front page article in yesterday's edition of the *DAILY OBSERVER* newspaper under the caption, "INA Adopts 84-85 Budget." The official, INA's acting speaker, General Abraham Kollie, said that the assembly has only adopted major measures necessary for the processing of the 1984-85 fiscal budget.

A Capitol Building release issued in Monrovia yesterday quoted the general as saying the way the *OBSERVER* puts it will make it seem that the budget has already been passed, which, he said, is not true. The INA speaker then emphasized the need for journalists to guard against such speculations, which, he said, invariably lead to distortions or misinformation.

Bus Drivers Continue Strike for Back Pay

AB270840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Ninety-two drivers of the Monrovia Transit Authority, MTA, refused to work yesterday for the third day running in demand for salary arrears owed them by management. The managing director of MTA, Major Joseph Douglas, told our reporter Tuesday that the head of state was expected there to have a meeting with him and his staff, but there is yet no development on the meeting MTA was expected to have had with the head of state and no report yet as to whether the drivers will return to work this morning. A spokesman for the drivers has been quoted by local newspapers as saying that drivers will not return to work until their 4 months' salaries, as well as other benefits, are paid them by management.

NIGER

Air Afrique Crews Ordered To Return to Work

AB261322 Paris AFP in French 1236 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Niamey, 26 Sep (AFP) — The Niger Government decided on Tuesday to order its flight crews serving with Air Afrique airline, who have been on strike since 11 September, to return to work it was learned from informed sources in Niamey on Wednesday. Niger, it is pointed out, is the third member-state of the airline, after Togo and Ivory Coast, to order its crews back to work.

NIGERIA

Ex-Minister's Appointment to UN Post Opposed

AB260909 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Federal Government says it does not condone the continued membership of a former minister of justice, Chief Richard Akinjide, in the International Law Commission. It explained that, as in the cases of other Nigerian fugitives abroad, the government was interested in bringing Chief Akinjide back home to account for his activities while in office.

In a statement in Lagos yesterday, Minister of External Affairs Dr Ibrahim Gambari said that the clarification became necessary because of the inaccurate reports recently carried by some national newspapers regarding the appointment. Dr Gambari made it clear that Chief Akinjide did not get his UN job under the present military administration, but in 1982, when he was elected to the General Assembly by the United Nations. Meanwhile, Dr Gambari will present letters of credence to Miss (Aduke Alakija), the Nigerian ambassador-designate to Sweden.

NAN Reports on Chad Withdrawal Activity in Kano

AB261315 Lagos NAN in English 1305 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Kano, Sept. 26 (NAN) — About four military transport planes conveying military hardware and troops have landed at the Aminu Kano International Airport, Kano, since the withdrawal of Libyan and French troops from Chad, began yesterday.

The NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports that the troops were [words indistinct] in a section of the airport under heavy (?security). Although military officers supervising the

withdrawal at the airport refused to talk to the press, the agency reports that armed members of the Nigerian Army and the mobile policy squad could be seen at strategic positions at the airport.

Also at the Bagauda Lake Hotel, near Kano, armed soldiers and policemen were also on guard although a military officer who was around refused to confirm whether the place was being used as a transit camp or not.

A senior military officer involved in the operations told NAN that it was only the Supreme Military Council that could comment on the issue.

Paper Questions Use of Airport by France, Libya
AB271005 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *OBSERVER* in its editorial does not fully support the Federal Government's decision to allow the French and Libyan Governments to use the Aminu Kano International Airport as a transit camp. The paper notes that the action can be detrimental to the security of the country.

Governor Criticizes UK Position on Fugitives
AB270825 Lagos NAN in English 0715 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Jos, Sept. 26 (NAN) — The military governor of Plateau, Navy Capt. Samuel Atukum said in Jos today that it was the greatest disservice to the country, that friendly nations continued to harbour the fugitives.

Receiving the British officers of the Royal Defence College of Britain in his office, Capt. Atukum said that such fugitives should have been regarded as criminals and their repatriation done without delay.

He said that a strong tradition had already evolved in the advanced countries that an official implicated in corrupt practices would resign in addition to facing prosecutions. The governor said that it was ironical that the same countries "surreptitiously endorse kickbacks and aid the transfer of illegal earnings by Nigerian politicians and their agents to foreign banks." Capt. Atukum said that members of the delegation should pressure their home government to have a change of attitude on the issue of the extradition of the fugitives, adding that all accused would be tried in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

The spokesman of the delegation, Rear Admiral A.J. Richmond said that they were here to acquaint themselves with the problems of the country socially, economically and politically and would give a feedback to their home government. The Royal College of Defence Studies, founded in 1927 is for the training of senior British defence officers as well as a few others from other countries.

Apartheid, U.S. Threat To Leave UN Bodies Viewed
AB260934 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY TIMES* focuses on the recent hypocritical condemnation of apartheid South Africa by some European countries. The paper notes that the leading industrial nations of Europe have consistently defied the United Nations' economic sanctions against South Africa. The *TIMES* says the Western countries can only assist genuinely by breaking military and economic ties with the Pretoria regime in South Africa.

The *NIGERIAN OBSERVER* totally condemns the United States' increasing threats to withdraw from some of the agencies of the United Nations. It expresses concern over such threats. The *OBSERVER* says that the United States Government's attitude has shown conclusively that it has no respect for the norms of the international organizations.

TOGO

Minister Visits Expelled Basques in Hospital
AB262127 Paris AFP in French 1201 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Lome, 26 Sep (AFP) — The Togolese minister of health, Mrs Aissah Agbetrah, on Tuesday visited the four Spanish Basques suspected of being members of the Basque movement ETA-Military who were expelled from France to Togo last Sunday, it was learned from a reliable source in Lome on Wednesday.

The minister noted that the health of the four men was clearly improving after their long hunger strike in France, the source added. The Togolese authorities have remained silent on the issue, hoping to rid it of any sensationalism and to place it in its humanitarian perpective.

According to some sources, the authorities would like the four Basques to get some rest and receive few visitors during their 1 week stay in hospital. A final decision will be made later on their status as exiles.

Only an "honorary" Spanish consul resides in Lome, observers note; therefore, he was not informed of any of the arrangements to expel the Spanish Basques from France to Togo. According to observers in West Africa, this new Basque exile affair confirms the role Togo would like to play as a "land of refuge." To benefit from this refuge, the people concerned must promise to stop all political activities while in Togo. This commitment was not always honored by former Emperor Bokassa, which made it compulsory for the Ivorian authorities to warn him several times. On the contrary, Mr Patasse, former CAR prime minister, is faithful to his commitment in Lome. Observers in Lome believe that if political asylum is granted to the four Spanish opponents after their recovery, the same warning not to engage in political activities on Togolese territory will be given to them.

ANGOLA

Foreign Minister Jorge Leaves for UN Meetings

MB261640 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, the minister of external affairs, left for New York yesterday, where he will represent Angola in the 39th General Assembly of the United Nations, which began recently. The head of the Angolan foreign service will also participate in the meetings of the Group of 77, which will take place tomorrow and the day after tomorrow, and in the meeting of the coordinating bureau of the nonaligned countries, which should take place on 1, 2 and 3 October.

The Angolan minister of external affairs is expected to speak before the 39th session of the UN General Assembly 1 October, where we believe he will discuss at length the present political and military situation in southern Africa and other issues, particularly on the People's Republic of Angola.

Joint Commission With GDR Meets in Luanda

MB270958 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Joint memoranda were signed in Luanda this afternoon at the end of the fifth meeting of the GDR-Angola joint transport subcommission. During the meeting, which was attended by Angolan and GDR delegations, the participants worked hard to broaden the transport sector at various levels of the People's Republic of Angola. In the framework of the working visit, the GDR delegation inspected a number of enterprises, including Namibe port, where it familiarized itself with the specific development of the port area in the province. The GDR delegation is expected to leave Luanda for home tonight.

Meanwhile, the proceedings of the sixth session of the agricultural subcommission of the GDR-Angola Joint Economic Commission began in Luanda this afternoon. The meeting, which is expected to continue until 3 October, will evaluate existing cooperation and work out new cooperation in the fields of meat supply, technical and veterinary assistance, data processing, and other areas. The delegation will also tour the Quicuchi pumping station, production units in Malanje, and other similar activities.

The Angolan delegation at the meeting is led by Antonio Joaquim Roxo, vice minister of agriculture, while the GDR delegation is chaired by Dr. Neu, GDR deputy minister of agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs.

Deputy Defense Minister Ndalo Condemns RSA

MB260956 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Colonel Antonio dos Santos Franca Ndalo, first deputy defense minister and chief of the General Staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], has blamed South Africa for the continous criminal, destabilizing actions carried out against the Angolan people by the UNITA armed bandits. He was speaking at the Congress Hall in Luanda at the opening session of the eighth seminar of political workers of the FAPLA National Political Directorate.

He recalled on this occasion that imperialism, which is represented in a particularly aggressive way in southern Africa by the South African regime, is trying to force the MPLA-Labor Party leadership, the Government of the People's Republic of Angola, and the Angolan people to negotiate with the UNITA criminals. Rejecting all suggestions of this possibility, Col Ndalo cited a recent declaration by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who said that any such plan would be treason to the Angolan people. Ndalo said such a plan would be senseless and without foundation.

The UNITA criminal actions take place in the framework of imperialism's comprehensive plan against the MPLA, the chief of the FAPLA General Staff said on the occasion. South Africa's evident lack of good will to end the war in Angola was also discussed by that Angolan military leader, who noted that some South African military contingents remained in Angola against the will of the Angolan people. The presence of several South African military contingents on Angolan territory, South Africa's military and financial support to the UNITA bandits, and its the intensive training of criminal agents are proof that South Africa does not want peace, Col Ndalo said.

Source Denies Minister, Envoy Involved in Firm

MB261011 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] An official source approached by ANGOP has denied reports by certain Western newspapers that Lieutenant Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, Angolan minister of interior, and Comrade Elisio de Figueiredo, the Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, are shareholders of a commercial enterprise called (Tradeangol).

The source said that (Tradeangol) Investments Ltd is an enterprise which was legally founded in August 1984. The Angolan Government holds two-thirds of its capital. Its headquarters are in Luanda, and it has a branch in New Jersey in the United States. The enterprise exports and imports goods, and could also deal in other areas of trade in the future, this source said. The source added that such speculations are part of a campaign against the Angolan leaders launched by the imperialism and in this particular case it aims at discrediting two of the most important Angolan officials who are involved in talks with the United States and South Africa in order to bring about an agreement between the belligerent sides in the Namibian conflict for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 435.

UNITA Attacks Village in Bengo Province

MB262006 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] On 12 September, the UNITA criminal gangsters attacked the village of Catuta in Bengo Province. At a rally

yesterday in that village, Comrade Manuel Lopes Maria, the provincial commissioner of Bengo and member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, praised the local residents and the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola combatants stationed there for disrupting the groups which carried out the attack.

On the occasion, this member of the party Central Committee exhorted all the residents of Catuta and of Bengo Province to mobilize themselves around the Armed Forces, the People's Defense Organization, and the people's vigilante brigades in order to annihilate the pockets of armed bandits which are destabilizing the social and economic life of the region.

Savimbi Interview Offers UNITA Insight, History

PM211412 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 8 Sep 84 (review section) pp 12-15

[Interview with UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi by Joaquim Vieira on 26 July at base in Cuando-Cubango]

[Text] *EXPRESSO*: What will UNITA's military activity in the near future be like? Is its operational capability exhausted or do you believe that it is possible to launch deeper attacks in the areas controlled by the MPLA?

Savimbi: I believe that UNITA's operational capability is increasing. I can tell you as a fact, there has never been so great an offensive against our areas as this time, from April until now, in Cazombo, where we even had doubts about whether or not we would succeed in stopping the enemy. And they finally withdrew with heavy casualties.

EXPRESSO: But in Cazombo UNITA was on the defensive....

Savimbi: We were on the defensive, but we won. The MPLA had the ability to break our defense and take the positions. This demonstrates the defense capability which UNITA has acquired.

From the offensive viewpoint, the MPLA has succeeded in improving defense systems in certain vital places, but because the country is large, many absolutely vulnerable economic and strategic targets still are left.

EXPRESSO: But do you not believe that the MPLA, as long as it has the USSR's and Cuba's military support, on the one hand, and possesses the financial means — of the oil and the diamonds — to pay for that support, on the other, can withstand UNITA's pressure, and hence the war will reach an impasse, become deadlocked?

Savimbi: It will never become deadlocked. As long as the Cubans remain in Angola, they are a factor to be reckoned with — absolutely. But I have the following in mind: It is that either the Cubans come for open combat against UNITA (because the MPLA will not succeed) or they do not — and we have noted now in Cazombo that the Cubans took part but did not wish to have many casualties; they took part only in command of the brigade. This is a policy which I believe will be intensified in the course of time.

So the Cuban factor's presence is becoming merely a strategic factor, which prevents UNITA from seizing power by force of arms, but is not a factor which will count now to contain UNITA's advance into other areas, such as, for instance, Cabinda and Zaire, where there are oil wells.

The MPLA has a military problem: it does not have the time to turn its forces into a conventional army, which would be the strategic basis of its activity. It is therefore completely vulnerable until the Cubans decide to wage the war some day. But the indications which I have are that they are exposing their men less and the MPLA more.

I have a report (I do not know whether or not it is correct) that Fidel Castro admitted to somebody a fortnight ago that the MPLA had made no progress with the support which he had given it over the past 9 years, and that even if it continued for another 5 years, the MPLA would remain the same. It seems logical.

Urban Guerrilla Warfare

EXPRESSO: And in regard to the urban guerrilla warfare actions, will they be intensified?

Savimbi: They will, and we have the personnel trained and prepared. For instance, there is now fighting almost every day in Huambo, and we are planning to begin with the commandos in other cities. So there is a progression.

EXPRESSO: And do you still set as an aim the launching of these attacks in Luanda before the end of the year?

Savimbi: Absolutely. I believe that we will reach there by the end of the year.

EXPRESSO: Many of these attacks are directed against economic targets. Angola has a weak economy which has virtually not developed at all for the past 10 years. Will such attacks not help to harm Angola's future economic development even further?

Savimbi: Unfortunately, we must accept that this is true; except that we have no other alternative. For instance, we attacked the Lomaum Dam in 1982, the MPLA made an effort, partly with the assistance of Portugal and other countries, to reconstruct it, and on the 12th day of this month (July) we destroyed it again.

We regret, in fact, that it means an overall backwardness, but we cannot fight against the MPLA without attacking the economic targets, because, if we do not do so, the MPLA will have the resources to finance the war, and that will prolong it. Even President Roosevelt said in 1943-1944 that to spare the enemy's economic targets is to prolong the war.

EXPRESSO: But here it is a matter of a civil war. So those economic targets could also be of use to UNITA if it attains power, and the Angolan people in general.

Savimbi: Certainly, and the Angolan people will have to realize that it is with regret that we do this, but that militarily we have

no alternative. If we do not do so, we will be prolonging the suffering of the people themselves.

EXPRESSO: Does UNITA advise the foreign companies operating in Angola to leave for as long as the war lasts?

Savimbi: We have a very critical position. For instance, UNITA cannot accept that a company should come and give us money, because our leadership would be left in a very awkward position with regards to the commanders. How are we to explain to a commander: "You are going to seize Lunda now, but do not attack the diamond mines"? He will begin to understand: "Those men have some kind of arrangement."

It is a delicate problem, in which the middle way is that for the present the companies should reduce their personnel. In doing so they will also reduce the likelihood of being attacked. And they should know that the war exists: Therefore, they should use air transport for travel, which is very expensive and also helps our aim of making the war increasingly onerous, but they should not use the roads.

"Eanes Alone Causes Problems"

EXPRESSO: You have referred on several occasions to contacts between UNITA and MPLA leaders in favor of negotiations. Where have these contacts taken place?

Savimbi: In Lisbon and in France.

EXPRESSO: Up to what level of responsibility on the MPLA's part?

Savimbi: A high point, a rather high level.

EXPRESSO: But the MPLA says that these disclosures are merely UNITA propaganda....

Savimbi: This is untrue, partly because Portuguese personalities in Portugal know this. Those contacts were not made without an important Portuguese personality being aware.

EXPRESSO: What kind of personality? From the government, parties, the presidency of the Republic?

Savimbi: Parties, perhaps. Not from the presidency of the Republic. We are now hearing (although we cannot reliably confirm it), that the president of the Republic is beginning to accept that UNITA is a force. In December Eanes described UNITA as a group of bandits before a Western diplomat who came and told us, but it seems that the idea which he now has is different, because he reportedly expressed a little anxiety about UNITA's strength to other diplomats with whom he met in May. He is the only Portuguese personality with whom we have problems, because with the others....

It is also necessary to pinpoint the problem: It is not that we have any leader's approval to operate in Portugal. It has been said that Mario Soares and Jaime Gama support UNITA; this is untrue. Partly because they banned the movie [about UNITA, due to be screened on Portuguese television], did they not? Except that we feel that the socialist government is understanding the problem better. They realize that they cannot help UNITA, because they have diplomatic and economic relations — necessary, moreover — with the Luanda government, but that antagonizing UNITA resolves nothing, either. So they tolerate us.

EXPRESSO: Do you believe that UNITA has better conditions for operating in Portugal than under the previous government?

Savimbi: Indisputably. I believe that the Pinto Balsemao government was a very great disappointment to us. In the days of Sa Carneiro, many Social Democratic Party personalities and others, such as Lucas Pires, came to talk with me in Morocco, but when they were in power they were far more hostile toward us than the Socialist Party. They even made harsh statements about UNITA, which does not happen with the Socialist government.

EXPRESSO: Have there been any kind of contacts between UNITA and the Portuguese Government?

Savimbi: Not as far as I know. There has never been any contact with a Portuguese leader.

Messages to Mario Soares

EXPRESSO: And regarding contacts with Portuguese political parties: Were they resumed following the Democratic Alliance's extinction?

Savimbi: No, because we have not attempted it, either. We believed that there was not much seriousness. We prefer to pass messages through intermediaries to individuals such as Prime Minister Mario Soares himself, or maybe Dr Almeida Santos, whom we regard as a person of great intellectual integrity (we know him well, and he knows southern Africa well). There is no direct contact but contact through other circles, even in France, which have volunteered for that service.

We prefer to convey our messages to the Socialist Party because we believe that they are more serious: They assert that they can do nothing for UNITA, but we are not becoming discouraged. Others have promised the moon and later turned against us. This is a stance which we have adopted: Our representative makes no contacts with the former Democratic Alliance parties.

EXPRESSO: Would UNITA like to intensify relations with the Portuguese Government?

Savimbi: Certainly, if we could. But we do not wish to jeopardize Portugal's relations with the MPLA. Out of political and economic necessity the Portuguese Government really must be in contact with the Luanda regime, and we cannot make demands.

However, there are certain spheres in which we would like things to be different: For instance, why are UNITA members who have the money to study not accepted as refugees in Portugal, as so many people are? Because we do not want them to study in France or Britain: If they have basic training in Portugal they will be able to be useful in the Angolan administration, but if they begin with French or English, it is no longer the feeling

which we have; we would like them to continue to learn a language which we believe is ours.

"We Are Not Harassing Portuguese"

EXPRESSO: In Portugal there is a feeling that UNITA is harassing the Portuguese volunteer workers; some have been taken hostage. Does UNITA advise Portuguese people not to come to Angola as long as the civil war lasts?

Savimbi: No. That is the only thing that we do not do. The truth must be reaffirmed: We are in no way harassing the Portuguese or any other Western volunteer workers. But if we leave the Portuguese behind in a place which we have occupied temporarily, the frustration of the MPLA commanders who have been beaten (I am not saying that Eduardo dos Santos is ordering this) could lead them to execute those volunteer workers in order to make propaganda by saying that it is UNITA which is killing them.

We set no terms for the Portuguese citizens' release. We do not even wish to talk with the government; partly because I have become so disappointed with that Gama — what is he called?

EXPRESSO: Jose Gama, of the Social Democratic Center Party. It was your first release of Portuguese citizens.

Savimbi: It was very bad. He went to Johannesburg, then made the speech thanking South Africa without mentioning UNITA; afterward, Mr Anacoreta Correia was involved. As far as we are concerned, it was an absurd episode.

It was we who contacted the Red Cross. We said: "We have so many Portuguese; come and fetch them." There is even one significant thing: We had Portuguese citizens here when the Americans began to press us to release the two Russian pilots so that tHe MPLA would release three Americans whom they had on the other side. We said: "Let the Red Cross come and fetch the Russians, but the Portuguese, too." The Americans said "No. That matter of releasing the Portuguese is your problem. What we want is the Russians." And we said: "The Red Cross will not take the Soviets if it does not take the Portuguese, too."

EXPRESSO: Do you believe that Portugal could help resolve the conflict in Angola in any way?

Savimbi: We believe so. If there is anybody who has the complete file — ethnological, social, economic, and administrative — on Angola, it is the Portuguese. It is they who know the country comprehensively; we know it only partially. With that knowledge they can make an immense contribution by informing various countries about the forces fighting here. Because there is a certain Angolan essence, a sociopolitical substratum which must be understood: The conflict can only be resolved through dialogue if the Angolans understand each other and the outside supporters — South Africa, Cuba, the USSR, and others — are left without support.

Message to Americans

I am not saying that it was because of us, but we feel that following a conversation in that respect which we had seriously with the Americans, many people are now going to Portugal for diplomatic contacts. We told the U.S. delegation that it should consult Portugal about the conflict in Angola and southern Africa, and the following week Chester Crocker was in Lisbon.

EXPRESSO: Some returnees from Angola are still looking hopefully at UNITA. What assurances would you give them?

Savimbi: We have encouraged those elements through contacts which we have in Portugal. Frankly, this must not be seen as altruism; it is in the Angolans' own interest that we want the Portuguese to return, but, frankly speaking, with a transformed mentality, realizing that Angola is now an independent country; because we do not accept, either, what is written by a section of the Portuguese press, which still views Angola as a colonial possession. When Angola is at peace, the Portuguese who are indissolubly tied to it (and many of them were honest) can return.

Who can make people feel fulfilled, or on the way to fulfillment? The Cubans have not succeeded; they cannot deceive us. Under cloak of socialism (to which we are also not opposed), people have not been able to be inspired by an action producing something tangible in regard to their lives. The Portuguese can do this.

In the days of the Portuguese, a letter could be posted in Luanda and be received anywhere in the country. Today, on the MPLA's side, there is nothing that leaves from anywhere. Everything is ruined, and this is the minimum for those who are thinking of a responsible country.

EXPRESSO: So you are contemplating the return of the Portuguese in order to make up for the lack of skilled personnel. And what about the possession of economic resources, as it existed before independence?

Savimbi: Big finance will also be able to come, but at that time the Americans and the others will enter into competition.

"National Reconciliation Is Possible"

EXPRESSO: Returning to the conflict, has the hypothesis of UNITA setting up a government in the areas controlled by it been set aside?

Savimbi: Completely ruled out. And we have had pressure from some countries which tell us that the MPLA will never talk with us and that the two movements are mutually exclusive.

EXPRESSO: And do you believe that a national reconciliation is possible after a conflict of this intensity with such extreme stances?

Savimbi: It is possible. Maybe there are two or three people in the MPLA who do not accept this, but most of those whom we know on the other side will accept.

EXPRESSO: And would UNITA exclude anybody in the MPLA from that reconciliation.

Savimbi: No, we would exclude nobody. But there are people in the MPLA Central Committee who feel more responsible for this intransigence. I believe that they will retire.

EXPRESSO: Would you be prepared to talk with Fidel Castro or another Cuban leader if that would help resolve the problem?

Savimbi: It is difficult. You know that I have had many contacts with the Cubans — especially with Che Guevara — and we had a good deal of sympathy for the Cuban revolution. And they know this, because our relations with Cuba were no secret; they were official. Except that the Cubans' entry into Angola created a very traumatic aspect as regards how we used to view Fidel Castro. He is a very intelligent politician. On the issue of Angola, I would like to believe that he will use his intelligence to realize that intransigence does not serve Cuba's purpose in the future.

Meeting With Svoboda

EXPRESSO: What happened at your meeting with Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Stanislav Svoboda at the time of the Czechoslovak hostages' release? Did Prague promise to intercede with Luanda?

Savimbi: No. Deputy Minister Svoboda took a message containing our intentions and wishes. But he also disclosed to us that he did not come here in order to change Czechoslovak policy in relation to the MPLA.

However, something is changing: The fact that they had over 300 volunteer workers here and now they have only eight changes the situation. But he did not promise that he would go and press the MPLA to negotiate. The only thing that we asked was that Czechoslovakia keep a door open in the event of UNITA needing its services.

EXPRESSO: And does Prague accept this?

Savimbi: Prague accepted. We had a very lengthy discussion, and then I asked him to inform the Soviets of the subject matter of our conversation.

EXPRESSO: Did he accept?

Savimbi: He did not promise, but I know that he will do so, because of their relationship with the USSR. I have visited Prague on several occasions, and I know what that is.

EXPRESSO: Did the deputy minister mention any Soviet pressure to prevent his coming?

Savimbi: No, on the contrary. He felt frustrated by the MPLA's non-cooperation — and he said so. But when they came here they had Soviet approval — they were not opposed to Svoboda negotiating with us.

"No" to RENAMO

EXPRESSO: Does UNITA have relations with any member of the group of five Portuguese-speaking African countries?

Savimbi: No. Not officially.

EXPRESSO: And would you like to have them?

Savimbi: Absolutely. The countries which perhaps might understand us most quickly would be....

EXPRESSO: Cape Verde?

Savimbi: ...Cape Verde because of its policy of openness....

EXPRESSO: Would you accept President Aristides Pereira's mediation in the Angolan conflict?

Savimbi: Absolutely, absolutely.

EXPRESSO: Has he never volunteered for that?

Savimbi: No, we have never received any message. But we have sent him messages through several individuals indicating that we would accept his mediation if it were accepted by the MPLA. And I believe that Cape Verde would be of considerable interest to us.

EXPRESSO: Is there any similarity between UNITA and RENAMO (the Mozambique National Resistance)?

Savimbi: Absolutely none.

EXPRESSO: What are the differences?

Savimbi: Everything is different, partly because we have never contacted RENAMO, although it receives assistance from the South Africans and we also have some support from them. We believe that RENAMO means frustration. Following an independence properly won by FRELIMO, they are reacting against that movement. It is not the same thing. We are continuing our own struggle. And, above all, we have a foundation which they do not have, which is the Alvor agreements.

We believe that South Africa used RENAMO to secure what is secured. It is done in politics: to use a force in order later to induce Machel to make concessions.

The "Safari Club"

EXPRESSO: It could also be said that South Africa supported UNITA in order to secure something in Angola or Namibia.

Savimbi: But even without them we would have other forms of assistance. South Africa's assistance was subsequent to that of other countries, especially Arab countries. The Arab countries had set up the so-called "Safari Club," which had a great deal of money; each member's contribution was worth $50 million.

EXPRESSO: Solely to assist UNITA?

Savimbi: No. They had other plans, but it was UNITA which came first. At that time we negotiated with South Africa for it to receive and let through the equipment. The first donation was a shipment of 23-mm anti-aircraft guns. That was in 1979-1980.

EXPRESSO: Is UNITA in a moral position to demand the departure of foreign troops from Angola if it did nothing about — and even benefited from — the entry of a South African military column just before independence?

Savimbi: It is no longer here! The moral position is: Who is here now?

EXPRESSO: There were South African troops occupying a strip of Cunene until recently. UNITA said or did nothing about that, either.

Savimbi: Yes, but they are no longer here, either. I can accept this, that moral position, but with two arguments: The first is that the OAU special conference, which was held 22 January 1976, demanded the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Angola. The South Africans left, and the Cubans did not; on the contrary, they increased their contingent. Morally, I believe that the MPLA is in no better position than ourselves.

The second argument is that the South Africans did indeed invade the Cunene Strip later, but now it is the MPLA which is negotiating with them for them to leave. I believe that the MPLA has lost the moral basis for attacking the South Africans as racists.

"Accept Geography"

I had a friend, the Count of Marenche, who was the chief of the French services (secret services: foreign intelligence and counterintelligence service) — a great strategist — who told me: "You can change politics as you please, but you cannot change geography." Geography dooms people. The MPLA must accept that, whatever its revolutionary rhetoric, it cannot escape the reality of having to talk with the South Africans — willy-nilly. This was what we told Agostinho Neto in 1975: "Let us take geopolitics into account. Let us not ignore Namibia with the South Africans and Zaire with Mobutu; let us accept those two realities. We will have a policy which will perhaps not be the best, the one which we would like for Angola, but it is not necessary for us to be anxious to see all the ideas realized now. Let those which can be realized be realized. Let the others be left for the next generation. Rather this than impose on the nation an effort which it cannot sustain."

EXPRESSO: What is UNITA's stance on apartheid?

Savimbi: We are opposed to it, and the South Africans know this; it is no secret that we are opposed to apartheid.

EXPRESSO: But many African countries criticize UNITA for lack of anti-apartheid solidarity.

Savimbi: They are not right, either. Because an anti-apartheid demonstration in London is pointless; British investments in South Africa are worth millions of dollars, and so Pretoria pays no attention. But we talk directly with the South Africans, with the prime minister: "Are those reforms which you are making of admitting Coloreds and Indians the end of your reform or the beginning?" We talk with them. Why? Because it worries us that the blacks are being left out.

EXPRESSO: And what do they say?

Savimbi: They tell us clearly that this is the beginning and that the situation in South Africa is very complex: "It was not we who created apartheid; we found it. It takes time to dismantle it, and care is necessary" (which we understand). The party of Botha himself is threatened by the extreme right, which does not accempt any change. He tells us that he has very grave problems but that he would like to create a situation which would enable his successors to go further.

We are in a much better position than the others to attack apartheid: The others hand out pamphlets and do not talk with them, and this is very bad.

South African Assistance

EXPRESSO: So does UNITA have no problems of conscience about having such close relations with South Africa?

Savimbi: None. And when they come to talk with us they do not look at us in an attitude of arrogance. There is a great change between the first contacts which we made with the South Africans in 1975 and today.

EXPRESSO: So what, in short, are the relations which UNITA maintains with Pretoria?

Savimbi: First, South Africa offers us a market, and through that market we sell what we are able to produce. Second, we are able to receive through them what our friends send us. There is an enormous quantity of equipment sent to us which we could not receive without the South Africans' cooperation. And, well, we receive gasoline for which we do not pay.

EXPRESSO: Gasoline given by South Africa?

Savimbi: Yes. In the days of the shah, Iran sold oil to South Africa, so it was possible for there to be arrangements enabling part of the oil to go to UNITA, but since the shah's fall in 1979 it is South Africa which has given us all the fuel necessary.

That is the only thing that we receive for free. And another thing: If we have gravely wounded people whom we cannot treat in our hospital, we send them to South Africa.

EXPRESSO: How do you explain this good will toward UNITA on South Africa's part?

Savimbi: The South Africans realize that we wish to make an effort to update ourselves. The situation in this region has changed; the circumstances have changed. We wish to face reality as it is, even if it costs us a little, because we have sacrificed principles and methods. But for a long journey you waste no time in making a detour in order to rejoin the road later.

EXPRESSO: So you admit that there was a sacrificing of principles by UNITA....

Savimbi: We did not really sacrifice principles. We adjusted them to present-day life, because, if we did not do so, we could not endure.

"We Have No Sympathy for ANC"

EXPRESSO: This South African support surely has a political quid pro quo. Is there any secret agreement between UNITA and Pretoria to the effect of banning ANC and SWAPO bases on Angolan territory if you attain power?

Savimbi: There is nothing. The issue of the ANC has not even ever been discussed between us, because they know that we do not work with them. We know them well — Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo — and there was never any sypathy for the ANC on UNITA's part. I believe that every people has the right to choose the method of liberating itself, and this also applies to the ANC, only I believe that armed struggle in South Africa is an impossable, hopeless path.

EXPRESSO: Do you mean that UNITA is opposed to the existence of an anti-apartheid movement in South Africa?

Savimbi: No. Let them continue, but they will achieve nothing. I believe that Pretoria is taking steps which, if they are fully understood by African strategists, could open up a solution for South Africa's blacks. There is another way: When the South Africans move closer to Mozambique they gain a diplomatic victory, but Mozambique can gain something else from the South Africans. It is in this respect that I believe the overall strategy in the area toward South Africa should be revised, instead of seizing and detaining ANC members, as they are doing now. It is not we who are seizing and expelling them but those anti-apartheid people.

EXPRESSO: Has UNITA taken advantage of the South African presence in Cunene to use it as a corridor for infiltration?

Savimbi: No. The MPLA has said this. But where were the South Africans recently when we attacked Sume, Cafunfo, and Cabinda? They were closeted in talks with the MPLA. Our support in the Cunene woodland is traditional.

Alternatives to Namibia Route

EXPRESSO: UNITA receives most of its provisions, arms, and ammunition through the border with Namibia. What would happen if UN Resolution 435, which envisages that territory's self-determination, were implemented?

Savimbi: We have alternatives. It is a matter of the willingness of South Africa and the other countries supporting us. UNITA now has a certain infrastructure and liberated areas. Even with 2,000 UN troops in Namibia those countries could continue to bring the material when they wanted, from anywhere. Maybe we would not manage to receive 250 tons of material all at once — it would take us 2 or 3 months — but we would still continue to receive it. The MPLA believes that if Resolution 435 were implemented the border would be closed and we would be finished. Take note: Cannot a Hercules C-130 aircraft reach here?

EXPRESSO: But do you not accept the hypothesis of South Africa's stopping supplies by means of an agreement with Luanda?

Savimbi: It is what I say: It is a matter of willingness. I have no guarantee about this, partly because South Africa is a regional power, with various interests. I am no longer inexperienced in politics for somebody to come here with hands clasped and swear that he will never abandon me again; I have already been abandoned on several occasions. It depends on willingness....

EXPRESSO: The Portuguese in South Africa apparently play an important role in supplying UNITA....

Savimbi: They are friends. Through their supermarkets we have low prices. They have cooperated.

EXPRESSO: Even with regard to ammunition, too?

Savimbi: No, it is not they who give us ammunition. It is a delicate problem.

EXPRESSO: But it is transported by vehicles....

Savimbi: The vehicles are driven by certain Portuguese and other friends.

EXPRESSO: What is UNITA's annual budget?

Savimbi: Well, we have already spoken here of $85 million. It depends on availability. It could be, perhaps, $50 million, and $70 million another year, because the money is discussed with the countries which have it. We have no fixed budget. We may need $50 million and they give us them, but sometimes we ask for $50 million and they give us $30 million. At any event, for UNITA to operate the budget can never be below $30 million per year.

UNITA's Friends

EXPRESSO: And what are the countries which are UNITA's friends?

Savimbi: This still cannot be known. At present they are increasing.

EXPRESSO: There are African and Arab countries. As for France, I believe that it is no longer as it used to be in the days of Giscard....

Savimbi: Nor are they very hostile, although they do not assist us. The Communists' departure from the government will help a great deal. The French have now understood everything that is happening here in Angola.

EXPRESSO: And Israel?

Savimbi: Never. There are two countries with which UNITA has never had relations and does not intend to have them: Israel (because of our Arab friends) and Taiwan (owing to our relations with the PRC). And when Beijing recognized the MPLA government, Taiwan came with many offers, but we said "No."

EXPRESSO: Among the Arabs, I believe that Saudi Arabia is a country which assists UNITA a great deal....

Savimbi: Well, it is of no consequence. But we began with the Arabs long ago. For instance, with Egypt, with Al-Nasir, whom we regard as a great patriot. We do not wish to interfere with Israel; we are not anti-Jewish or anything, but our friendship has long been with the Arabs and we have no reason to change.

EXPRESSO: And in Africa? Is Morocco still training UNITA members?

Savimbi: Well, there are many in Africa. People mention only Morocco, but there are many which we do not mention for strategic reasons. There is military training not just in Morocco.

EXPRESSO: In which countries does UNITA supply itself with arms?

Savimbi: The arms trade is conducted everywhere. For sophisticated arms it is in the Middle East. The Lebanese are the main dealers. After the war in Lebanon they spread nearly everywhere in Europe.

EXPRESSO: I have also come across some ammunition manufactured in Portugal. Has UNITA purchased arms there?

Savimbi: It is so easy. The Portuguese sold a good deal of arms after the end of the war. I myself do not rule out the possibility that it was Council of the Revolution members who sold the equipment abroad.

EXPRESSO: I know that, for instance, Portugal sold a large batch of G-3 rifles as military surplus in 1978, which ended up in South Africa, as well as the respective ammunition a little later. Did any of this come into UNITA's hands?

Savimbi: Some came to South Africa, but most went to Zambia, Zaire, and Morocco; I know the quantities which were sold.

EXPRESSO: And did UNITA receive arms of that kind?

Savimbi: You mean, we found them somewhere. Portugal sold them to several countries and we found out.

EXPRESSO: And are you currently purchasing direct from Portugal?

Savimbi: No. We are purchasing absolutely nothing.

EXPRESSO: Is there not a paradox in the fact that UNITA calls itself a liberation movement and has relations with dictatorial regimes, as happened with that of the shah?

Savimbi: I believe that this is not the sole instance in history. For instance, Morocco greatly assisted the MPLA. It changed only in 1977-1978. This means nothing; they are changes in the global situation. For instance, how is it that the MPLA, which calls itself progressive, had relations with Argentina? Those military dictators were friends of the MPLA.

EXPRESSO: It is known that UNITA is currently receiving no direct assistance from the U.S. Administration because of the "Clark Amendment." But if that amendment were repealed would you accept CIA assistance, such as is given to the anti-Sandinistas in Nicaragua?

Savimbi: It is the U.S. Congress which would repeal it and then it would be the administration which would decide to give the money. It would not matter to us if it were through the CIA or anybody else. But it is not worth while to speculate. We have no illusions: The "Clark Amendment" will not be repealed, either by Democrats or Republicans.

The Chinese Lesson

EXPRESSO: Let us now talk about UNITA's history. You left the UPA [Union of Angola Peoples], so you explain, because you wished to broaden the base of international support beyond the Americans, as well as the area of guerrilla warfare, and Holden Roberto was opposed to this. Why did you not attempt this at that time in the MPLA?

Savimbi: I knew the MPLA well at that time. I went to Brazzaville, where I was with Agostinho Neto, and I felt that the MPLA was conducting propaganda more than fighting. My reason for leaving the UPA still persisted with the MPLA. They were making small propaganda attacks and returning.

My mind was satisfied only when I learned from the Chinese that a large base of mobilization of the peasants and intellectuals is necessary; that was what I needed.

EXPRESSO: Did China represent an ideological option for you at that time?

Savimbi: The conflict between the USSR and China caused Beijing to receive us with a good deal more interest and affection than Moscow. They said: "What is done here in China cannot produce results in your country." But there was a common basis; we felt that the Chinese philosophy could succeed in Angola, which was the case.

EXPRESSO: You met with Mao Zedong. What influence did he have on your political education?

Savimbi: He was a great man, but when I met with him in 1967 my ideas were already formed. So I do not believe that he exerted a great influence, such as, for instance, Kenyatta or Al-Nasir. Even so, I regarded him — and still regard him today — as a monument of history.

EXPRESSO: UNITA was inspired by communist guerrilla movements (China, Vietnam) and is fighting against a regime supported by communist countries. Is there not a contradiction here?

Savimbi: We had a very great difference, even before 1974: the MPLA was supported by Moscow and we were supported by the Chinese. We believe that the peasants must play an important role, now and in the future. We must resolve first the problem of food, which is a strategic matter. Africa's greatest problem today is food, not the issue of industrialization: so many people are dying every day.

The resolution of this problem in the future depends on understanding the mentality of the peasants we have today. Because the government will not be able to produce in order to give to the peasants if we do not turn them into idle people. [sentence as published] They are people who, despite their backward and self-sufficient mentality, will become more self-sufficient than a worker if they are organized. This is a different philosophy of

Angola society which we have in relation to the MPLA. This difference is fundamental.

Danger of Disintegration

EXPRESSO: What is UNITA's political ideology?

Savimbi: It is all this about which we are talking. Europe's political nomenclature means nothing to us.

EXPRESSO: Does UNITA regard itself as a party or a front?

Savimbi: It is certainly a front. It is a movement, not a party.

EXPRESSO: Since it is a front, is UNITA not in danger of disintegrating if it attains power?

Savimbi: There are always dangers. But we must accept our situation in Angola, which is one of apprenticeship: today in national liberation, tomorrow in government. For the present we are united on essentials: fighting the Cubans, seeking a common front with the MPLA, mobilizing the peasants, training the army, and giving skilled personnel a role. This is the ninimum: We have agreed that we are not going to discuss the whole of Angola society now. We have not ruled out the possibility that later there will be broader approaches in which there may be differences.

EXPRESSO: There are two words in UNITA's emblem which I would like to ask you to explain. One of them is "negritude." Is this not an apartheid in reverse, of the blacks in relation to the whites?

Savimbi: I believe that Aime Cesaire and Leopold Senghor, who introduced the word "negritude" into the political and philosophical dictionary, cannot be accused of being black racists. Aime Cesaire was a half-breed, and Senghor is married to a white lady. I discussed negritude at length with Senghor.

EXPRESSO: And what is its meaning?

Savimbi: The real meaning, which we need in Angola, refers to our cultural heritage, because otherwise we cannot resist assimilation. For instance, I find it very strange that the MPLA people never talk on the radio in their own language but always in Portuguese. We also believe that Portuguese is the prevailing official language; it is a scientific language and is leading us to unite the various cultures which we have in Angola. But this cannot rule out the fact that our culture stems from the deepest roots of what we wre. They call themselves detribalized, but that is what I do not want for Angola.

EXPRESSO: But there is a contradiction between, on the one hand, the need to create a nation, and, on the other, the maintenance of tribal values.

Savimbi: But tribal values cannot be excluded in the formation of the nation.

Tribalism

EXPRESSO: Is there a tribal hegemony within UNITA, as the MPLA says?

Savimbi: The MPLA only talks. That is a lie.

EXPRESSO: But there is an Ovimbundu predominance in UNITA's ranks.

Savimbi: It is a matter of recruitment. We have recruited in the area which we reached and where there was the largest population. But, for instance, we now have many troops from Quibala, because we are in that area. We also have many men from Luanda. We began to seek them in 1982, and so many showed up that we were amazed. The same thing is happening with the men from Malange. There is no selection; it depends on where we find the troops.

EXPRESSO: Are the UNITA fighters arranged according to tribes or mixed?

Savimbi: They are trained together. We do not even know who came from where. Nor is there any unit, so far as I can recall, which is exclusively Ovimbundu.

EXPRESSO: The second word in the emblem to require explanation is "socialism." Does UNITA regard itself as a socialist movement?

Savimbi: Yes, UNITA is a socialist movement. But socialism must be interpreted in accordance with the form of production and production capacity of the people in each country. Even if the guiding principles are the same, Portuguese socialism has a certain difference from French socialism.

We are in favor of socialism because it is necessary to socialize production. Only in this way can values be created in people.

EXPRESSO: Would this mean a state-controlled economy?

Savimbi: We want a mixed, not completely collectivized, economy, because of the skilled personnel. A very lengthy political education is necessary: For instance, a bus driver without political education does not care if he crashes the bus, because it belongs to the state. It is necessary to begin by training skilled personnel. You cannot head for socialism without skilled personnel.

EXPRESSO: And what would the economic priorities be in the first few years?

Savimbi: Agriculture, first of all, and the creation of a market, which implies peace and roads. Because if we do not succeed in creating a market, agriculture will be of no use. It is what the Portuguese used to do. They had the courage to mingle with the population and created a market.

Multiparty System

EXPRESSO: What about political freedom and freedom of expression?

Savimbi: We must not daydream. The Angola which we would like to see would be an Angola in which UNITA would control power alone, making the party's program the nation's program. But it is not possible. We must accept Angola's situation, accept

the existence of a multiparty system — two, three, four parties, only they should be essential parties.

EXPRESSO: And what would be the yardstick for that?

Savimbi: We will have to see what support the parties have and what policies they advocate; because if they advocate a policy of the division of Angola, we cannot accept them, even if they have support.

EXPRESSO: If UNITA attained power by its own means, would it organize free elections?

Savimbi: Absolutely, because we would not be content to govern in the way that the MPLA governs. There must be a party which can guide the government, and it must emerge from a national plebiscite.

EXPRESSO: But would UNITA risk losing power after elections, having fought for so many years?

Savimbi: But we would not like to win through armed struggle and have to continue the armed struggle afterward. That is why there should be a coalition, regardlessof the election results. But I doubt whether the MPLA would gain a majority. They do not have the ability to mobilize the people that UNITA has.

LESOTHO

Joint Commission With Zambia To Strengthen Ties

MB261412 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of planning, employment, and economic affairs, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, says he believes that areas of cooperation embodied in the agreement on cooperation between Lesotho and Zambia presented both a challenge and hope for developing and implementing mutually beneficial opportunities for the development of the economies of the two countries and the well-being of their peoples.

Opening the first meeting between the Lesotho and the Zambian governments to mark the Lesotho-Zambia Permanent Commission of Cooperation in Maseru this morning, Mr Sekhonyana said the Lesotho Government will ensure that this first meeting of the permanent commission will explore in depth new areas of cooperation in the development plans of the two countries.

He said while the two countries have been cooperating at the international level, for instance within the framework of the OAU and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, there has been no framework for cooperation at the bilateral level. The wisdom of the great leaders of Lesotho and Zambia has dictated the imperative of cementing relationships between the two countries by establishing a joint commission.

The minister said persuant to the desires of both countries to strengthen and consolidate already existing warm relationships, the two governments had created a permanent commission of cooperation to monitor and concretize these mutual ties.

The Zambian minister for the National Commission for Development and Planning, the Honorable Dr H.S. Meebelo, said the state visit by his majesty the king to Zambia last month, and the king's interest in Zambia's agricultural show during his visit, were very much alive in the minds of the Zambians. Dr Meebelo said his majesty had expressed interest in Zambia's production of day-old chicks for export, and added that he trusted that the matter would be given enough attention during the present talks, taking into account the need to explore the possibilities of concluding and enabling Zambia-Lesotho air services agreements.

The Zambian minister said politically independent African countries were economically dependent entities. He expressed the hope that the present session of the Lesotho-Zambian Permanent Commission would formulate a work program for 1984-85 in a way that would facilitate the implementation process and the review of the progress made at the next sesssion of the commission.

The arrival of the Zambian delegation to Lesotho precedes the visit to Lesotho by the Zambian prime minister, His Excellency Mr Nalumino Mundia.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Greets Visitors to Anniversary Activities

MB261838 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel this morning began to receive foreign delegations attending the main celebrations in Maputo marking the 25 September anniversary. The Mozambique head of state, who thanked the delegations for attending the celebrations, has already received General Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Major-General (Nwaka Lindili), the head of the military delegation of Tanzania; and (Phillipe Lokonda), the head of the Congolese delegation.

With Gen Obasanjo, President Samora Machel recalled that a few years ago, when Obasanjo was the president of Nigeria, they had discussed in the same room the issue of Zimbabwe, which was then dominated by the racist and illegal regime of Ian Smith, which carried out acts of aggression against Mozambique.

With Maj-Gen (Nwaka Lindili), President Samora Machel said that the presence of the Tanzanian delegation at the celebrations marking the 25 September anniversary, has enabled the Tanzanians to see for themselves that which they helped to create. The field marshal of the Republic referred in particular to the grand military parade along 25 September Avenue in Maputo yesterday.

At his meeting with (Phillipe Lonkonda), the head of the delegation of the People's Republic of the Congo, President Samora Machel said that the presence of the Congolese delegation at the celebrations was pleasing because Congo was an important base for the struggle of the Angolan people, adding that the struggle of Angola is also the struggle of Mozambique. Samora Machel also underlined the importance of the strengthening of interparty relations between the Frelimo Party and the Congolese Labor

Party for the defense of the respective peoples and revolutions and the building of socialism.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO-SWANU Merger Talks Reported 'Successful'

MB260934 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] SWAPO and SWANU [South-West Africa National Union] have reported progress in their merger talks held in Lusaka yesterday. The SWANU vice president, Mr Imbu Uirab, who arrived the Zambian capital on Monday for talks with SWAPO leaders, said last night that the talks had been successful, although a final decision to merge had not been made.

SOUTH AFRICA

Crocker Statement to U.S. Senate Cites RSA 'Progress'

MB270629 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] In Washington, the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, has said that the Reagan administration's record on South Africa and the southern African region has been one of substantial accomplishment.

In a prepared testimony before a hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee of African Affairs, Dr Crocker said the administration had shunned what he describes as the path of rhetoric and preaching towards South Africa because this policy had failed in the past and was no more likely to be successful now. Dr Crocker said there was clear evidence of progress towards a more favorable climate of change in South Africa.

He added that American efforts to relax what he called the siege mentality among South African whites had enabled the prime minister to give the Colored and Asian population some political rights under a new constitution. At the same time, Dr Crocker said, the Reagan administration had noted that the new constitution was flawed because the 73 percent black population remained disenfranchised.

Restriction on Beyers Naude Lifted; Others Freed

MB261646 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The restriction order on the Johannesburg clergyman, Rev Beyers Naude, and detention orders on six other people have been lifted. A spokesman for the Department of Law and Order, Colonel Leon Mellet, has confirmed to our Pretoria news staff that the order, in terms of which Dr Naude was to have been restricted until 31 October 1985, has been lifted in its entirety. This means that there are no longer restrictions on his freedom of movement.

Naude Speaks to Media

MB261946 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Beyers Naude has spoken to the media after being banned for 7 years. The Dutch Reformed Church minister and head of the banned Christian Institute was unbanned by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, this afternoon. Sixty-nine-year-old Naude says the lifting of his banning order came totally unexpectedly.

During a news conference, Naude said he has noticed a slight softening towards racial policies by the South African Government over the past 7 years, but he said it is not enough. Naude said he is not bitter and that security police treated him formally and politely while he was banned. He has not elaborated on his plans for the future.

Comments on Restriction, Reforms

MB270633 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] The former moderator of the NG Kerk [Dutch Reformed Church]in the southern Transvaal and the rector of the banned Christian Institute, the Reverend Dr Beyers Naude, whose restriction order was lifted yesterday for the first time in 7 years, says the arbitrary action taken against him by the authorities has left him without bitterness, although he had felt resentment at times.

Approached by our Johannesburg news staff soon after the lifting of his restriction order, Dr Beyers Naude said that the intention of the government to bring about reforms had to be recognized as sincere. However, he believed that as long as the majority of South Africans were excluded from meaningful political decisionmaking processes it would not be possible to solve South African problems in a satisfactory manner.

Six Detainees Released

MB262000 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] A sixth South African has been released from detention. He is Eastern Cape Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] official Moke Cikisane, who has been freed along with five others who have been in detention for periods of up to a month. The other detainees released are AZAPO Vice-president Saths Cooper, top AZAPO official Peter Jones, Moss Chikane of the United Democratic Front [UDF], and student leaders Jerry Tlopane and Andries Mapetla.

There has been reaction to the release of the detainees. Carmel Rickard reports from Durban.

[Rickard] Officials of the Natal Indian Congress and the UDF in Durban have welcomed the news that six detainees have been released, but they have called for an undertaking by Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange that Section 16 of the Internal Security Act will not be applied to them. This section makes it

an offense to publish anything said by an ex-detainee. They have also called for all other detainees to be freed, and for the orders issued against the Durban Six to be lifted.

Report Disputes Durban Six May Leave Consulate
MB271027 Umtata Captial Radio in English
1000 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] In a report just received, the statement indicating that the Durban six will leave the consulate if judgment in the Supreme Court is given in their favor has been disputed by officials of the Natal Indian Congress [NIC]. Carmel Rickard reports:

[Rickard] The NIC officials told me that the statement did not come from them and had not been authorized by the six. According to the statement put out by the SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION [SAPA], an unnamed British diplomat in Pretoria says the six have indicated that they will leave if they are successful in their Supreme Court appeal against their redetention orders. Judgment in the case is expected within the next few days.

An official of the NIC told me that the SAPA statement was the first they knew of such an undertaking. They said that as far as they knew the correct situation was that the six would certainly leave if Section 26, Section 28, and Section 22 of the Internal Security Act no longer applied to them. These are sections relating to the detention itself, gagging, and state prohibition of belonging to certain organizations. They would also want certainty that a state appeal was not successful before they could make such a move, he said.

CP Spokesman Says RSA Should Close UK Consulate
MB261207 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Conservative Party spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Tom Langley, has said in Pretoria that should Britain fail to evict the six from the consulate then South Africa has the fullest right to close the mission.

Such a step is expected from a strong government. He said at the same time, however, South Africa should see that the four South Africans, who are due to appear in court in Britain next month on charges of arms smuggling, honor their conditions of bail. Mr Langley described the government's decision not to return the four to Britain as a breach of trust, adding that it boiled down to contempt of court.

Pik Botha Comments on British Arms Case
MB261732 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says South Africa does not intend escaping its obligations by revoking its refusal to allow four South Africans who are charged with being implicated in weapons smuggling in Britain to return to Britain to stand trial.

Mr Botha told our Pretoria news staff that the British legal team representing the four South Africans at the trial, including the South African diplomat handling the case, Mr Andre Pelser, would be returning to Britain soon. He said they would be in court on 22 October when the case was resumed.

Reacting to criticism in London and in the press that South Africa had broken an undertaking given to a British court, Mr Botha said that he was amazed to hear that South Africa's undertaking remained valid, but not British obligations under international law.

Botha Opens First Session of Presidents Council
MB260921 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says although the new President's Council is more politicized than the previous one, it must not become a body where petty divisions prevent it from fulfilling its main tasks. Opening the first session of the new President's Council in Cape Town, Mr Botha said the council was expected to provide a responsible contribution in providing advice and handling conflict.

Heunis Discusses New Constitution, Black Development
MB270618 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, says when one considers what the new Constitution is costing the country, one must weight the financial aspects against the stability, acceptability, and practicability of the dispensation. Addressing the Cape congress of the National Party in Cape Town, Mr Heunis said that the distribution of resources among population groups would no longer be decided on by one group, but it was now a case of multiple participation and multiple responsibility.

Referring to the viability of local authorities, Mr Heunis said that this did not only depend on financial considerations but also on the quality of officials and their ability to govern. The local communities would as far as possible be given the final say over themselves with the single qualification that in running their own affairs and deciding for themselves they must not sabotage national policy directives.

Mr Heunis said that it would be necessary to look at the concept of citizenship of blacks and the question of a broad nationality. He said that there were parallel processes under way for the development of black communities. They would not be accommodated in the same way as whites, Coloreds, and Indians, but this did not imply their exclusion from constitutional development. Group domination and discrimination at the expense of people was not acceptable, Mr Heunis said.

New York Bomb Attack Linked to Terror Groups

MB270552 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] Blame for the bomb attack which damaged the offices of the South African Consulate in New York yesterday has been laid at the door of a radical underground terrorist coalition which is reported to have direct links with so-called liberation movements in southern Africa and the Middle East.

A senior Federal Bureau of Investigation official, Mr Kenneth Walton, also linked the attack to 11 other similar explosions in New York and three in Washington since 1982. He said a group calling itself the Guerrilla Resistance had claimed responsibility for yesterday's attack and described them as being an interrelated coalition of people into armed robbery, murder, and bombings. Despite the damage, the consulate remained open yesterday and was functioning normally.

11 Similar Acts Cited

MB270850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] The American Federal Bureau of Investigation says there is definitely a connection between yesterday morning's bomb explosion at the South African Consulate in New York and an explosion last night at a chemical plant in the city. The company, Union Carbide, has investments in South Africa. The group which has claimed responsibility for the bombings has 11 similar acts to its credit. Many were aimed at companies which have trade ties with South Africa.

Official Denies Interception of Zimbabwe Messages

MB261926 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The deputy postmaster general, Mr (Rath), says the South African post office respects the privacy of all transit communications. Mr (Rath) says that, as a transit organization, the South African Post Office will under no circumstances tamper with or allow anyone to tamper with transitory circuits.

He was reacting in Pretoria to allegations by the Zimbabwe minister of information that South Africa had been intercepting Zimbabwean political and security messages. Zimbabwe does not have its own international telecommunications network, and has to rely on South African facilities.

Air Force Exercise Termed Success by Official

MB261634 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The first phase of the evaluation of the Air Force's role in the recently completed exercise Thunder Chariot has been completed. More than 11,000 soldiers and about 4,000 vehicles took part in the mock battles at the South African Army Battle School in the northern Cape Province.

The Air Force's director of force penetration, Brigadier P.J. Geldenhuis, said in Pretoria that it has been found the Air Force can operate efficiently from relatively unsophisticated airfields with the employment of tactical airfield units. During the initial phases of the exercise there had been intensive flying operations and no problems had been encountered, in spite of the fact that about 70 aircraft had operated over long distances day and night.

ZAMBIA

Iranian Official Gives Khamene'i Message to Kaunda

LD252231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The under secretary of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of international and economic affairs, who isvisiting Zambia at the head of a delegation of Foreign Ministry officials in order to have talks with Zambian officials, met with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and conveyed a message from Mr Khamene'i, president of our country, on the plan to expel the Zionist regime from the United Nations.

The Central News Unit reports that at this meeting the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry in charge of international and economic affairs explained the stances of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Zambian president thanked him for the message of Mr Khamene'i, the president of our country, expressed support for the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic of Iran about the regime occupying Jerusalem and the South African regime, and said: We also condemn them. Bilateral relations and ways of expanding them were also discussed at this meeting.

ZIMBABWE

Nkomo Ordered To Vacate Farm; Property Confiscated

MB270716 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] The Zimbabwean opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, says the government has confiscated a farm of about 11,000 morgen which he owns in the vicinity of the town of Kezi. He has been ordered to vacate it today. Mr Nkomo said in Harare that he had planned the farm as the central core of a farming cooperative with the agreement of other surrounding farmers.

He said the government wanted to prevent the cooperative farm being formed because it would be a success, and it would show that the government's land resettlement program was wrong and a waste of money. Mr Nkomo described the confiscation as political thuggery and thievery. He said that in the past 2 years the Zimbabwean Government had seized more than 20 properties owned by his ZAPU party and himself.